

UNIFIL mandate renewed

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council on Friday unanimously approved a further six-month extension of the mandate of the 5,788-man U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), until Jan. 31, 1988. The force, now comprising troops from nine countries, was first sent to southern Lebanon in 1978 to oversee the withdrawal of Israeli troops who invaded that year and to help restore the authority of the Lebanese government. UNIFIL was bypassed when Israel again invaded in 1982 in a drive against Palestinian fighters. Most of the Israeli troops pulled out in 1985, but some were left behind to patrol a so-called "security zone" along the border, together with the Lebanese militia allies of the "South Lebanon Army." In a written report to the council earlier this week, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said the situation in southern Lebanon remained highly unstable. "The refusal of Israel to withdraw completely and its insistence on maintaining the 'security zone' continue to thwart efforts to start a process to restore international peace and stability in the area," he said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

U.S. seen stunned by U.K. decision

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. officials appeared stunned on Friday by a British decision not to send minesweepers to the Gulf as part of a combined task force Washington is seeking to protect shipping threatened by the Iran-Iraq war. Publicly, the U.S. government declined all comment on London's announcement earlier Friday (See story below). But privately officials appeared shocked by the refusal of the closest U.S. ally in Europe to help after strong signals from London that aid would be forthcoming. State Department spokesman Charles Redman refused all comment on the decision or to say which other European allies had been approached to take part in an operation to protect shipping in the Gulf, including vessels escorted by U.S. warships, from mines. He told reporters a combined minesweeping operation was "only one of the options under consideration," but refused to give any details. The U.S. navy, which has only three minesweeping ships on active duty and none of them in the Gulf, is sending eight specialised helicopters to the Gulf to help out.

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King congratulates Indian president

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable to Mr. Ramaswami Venkataraman congratulating him on being elected India's President. The 76-year-old veteran politician was sworn in Saturday as the eighth president of India. He replaced Zail Singh, a 71-year-old Sikh from the northern Indian state of Punjab, who did not seek reelection to a second five-year term in office. In his cable, the King praised Mr. Venkataraman's services to India and his relentless efforts to serve world peace and justice. The King also referred to the Indian-Jordanian relations which he described as strengthening. King Hussein wished the new Indian leader health and success in his mission, and more prosperity for the Indian nation.

Freij says U.S. firm may cancel W. Bank water project

BETHLEHEM (R) — A U.S. firm will cancel its plans to drill for water in the Israeli-occupied West Bank unless Palestinians agree to the project, according to Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij. The Mt. Moriah Trust, a Denver firm which drills for water and oil, told him it would not undertake the project for Israeli authorities if it jeopardised Arab water supplies northeast of Bethlehem. Mr. Freij said Thursday. The project, pumping 18 million cubic metres of water a year from the Bethlehem area, has outraged Palestinians because most of it would go to Jewish settlements in the West Bank. "The Mt. Moriah drillers are Christians who thought they were helping Christian Arabs and did not know the project would deprive our area in favour of the Israelis. They now assure me they will only enter into the project if the water is shared equitably," Mr. Freij told Reuters.

Arab-Americans oppose Israel aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prospects that Israel will continue to receive major chunks of a shrinking American foreign aid are drawing criticism from Arab-Americans. "Many Americans are resentful of the fact that we are being asked to make sacrifices at home while the U.S. government is not insisting that Israel should make equal sacrifices," David J. Sade of the National Association of Arab Americans told a Senate appropriations subcommittee Thursday. He complained that President Ronald Reagan's administration's \$3-billion 1988 military and economic aid proposal for Israel was moving forward in Congress without being pared down.

Tunisia reports 60 AIDS cases

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia reported 10 registered cases of AIDS on Friday and said more than 50 other people were affected by the deadly virus. Of the 10 victims, two were foreigners and eight were Tunisians. Six had died, the official press said. Five more were what the press called "pre-AIDS" cases and 47 others showed symptoms of the disease. The press said that all the AIDS victims had caught the disease from abroad, particularly Europe. They contracted it through homosexual contact or infected blood used for transfusions.

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Bridgeton to sail out of Gulf without waiting for minesweeping helicopters

1 dead and 3 lost in U.S. helicopter crash

KUWAIT (Agencies) — The mine-damaged supertanker Bridgeton began to load crude oil Friday and could sail this weekend escorted by U.S. warships, without waiting for minesweeping helicopters.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei warned U.S. forces to pull out of the "dangerous whirlpool" of the Gulf or "we will strike them so hard they will regret what they have done." Rescuers searched for three men missing in the crash of a U.S. navy helicopter during a routine shore-to-ship ferry flight in the central Gulf that left another American dead. In The Netherlands, a Dutch Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said the government had refused an informal American request for naval assistance in the Gulf (See page 2).

"The Bridgeton is loading

now," said a reliable shipping source quoted by AP. But he said it was not clear when the process would be completed. Other sources said earlier it would take about 26 hours to load the 240,000 tonnes of oil, a partial cargo calculated by computer to allow for the stresses of the gapping hole in its side. The 401,382-tonne Bridgeton had docked late Thursday at the Sea Island deep-water terminal, some 16 kilometres off the coast. Loading had been delayed since Wednesday by rough seas.

Pentagon officials in Washington said three U.S. navy warships could begin escorting the Bridge-

ton and its smaller companion tanker, the Gas Prince, back down the Gulf sometime this weekend.

The Bridgeton struck a mine, believed planted by Iran, on July 24 while on its first journey flying the American flag under U.S. warship escort.

It is due to make the return voyage without formal minesweeping assistance. But Pentagon source says U.S. navy underwater demolition teams have cleared at least seven mines from the area where the ship was holed, west of Iran's Farsi Island, base for Iranian attacks on commercial shipping. The navy is sending eight RH-53D sea stallion helicopters and a base ship to assist future convoys, but they are not due to arrive for about a week.

Mr. Khamenei told Muslim

(Continued on page 3)

Paris hopes to settle crisis with Tehran before fleet reaches Gulf

PARIS (R) — After sending an aircraft carrier task force on a two-week voyage towards the Gulf, France still hopes the crisis with Iran can be defused before the warships reach their destination, officials and diplomats say. The carrier Clemenceau, which left the Mediterranean port of Toulon on Thursday with three escort ships, is slouching along at around 13 knots, far below its top speed of 32 knots, towards the Eastern Mediterranean and the Suez Canal.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac says the dispatch of the squadron is not aimed at dramatising the conflict with Iran. The Defence Ministry has imposed a news blackout on the ships' movements. The warships put to sea without fanfare and with no reporters or photographers aboard. "Solving the Iranian affair will take a long time, but we are still

not looking for military confrontation," said a French official who declined to be identified. Paris and Tehran broke relations on July 17 in a dispute over an Iranian embassy interpreter, Valid Gurdji, who refuses to testify on his alleged role in last year's bombing campaigns in Paris.

France originally proposed that embassy staff would be repatriated within five days of the severing of ties. But two weeks later no progress has been made on bringing home the 15 French staff in Tehran and the 45 Iranians in Paris. Both embassies are surrounded by security forces.

"The Iranians still do not seem to have accepted the logic of breaking relations," said the official. "They are putting a brake on everything, even the most simple things." But French diplomats take

heart from the fact that their fears of an invasion of the French embassy in Tehran — such as happened to the U.S. mission in 1979 — have proved unfounded. The exact destination and role of the carrier task force remain unclear, except for its vague mission to "protect French interests in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean."

Iranian President Ali Khamenei on Friday derided the French government for needlessly engaging in a confrontation in the Gulf, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. The agency reported Mr. Khamenei told Friday worshippers in Tehran that France was trying to put on "an air of superpower."

France has distanced itself from a U.S.-proposed allied effort to remove mines from the Gulf.

Regan: Reagan rejected pardon for contra figures

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Former White House Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan testified Friday that President Ronald Reagan rejected a proposed pardon for John M. Poindexter and Oliver L. North last December, telling aides neither man had been accused of a crime. Mr. Regan was followed in the witness chair by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who testified that he vehemently opposed secret arms sales to Iran from the time he first heard of the idea in June 1985.

The back-to-back appearance of high-level witnesses reflected the determination of the House of Representatives and Senate investigating committees to end the hearings soon.

The panels are expected to interrogate several CIA officials privately next week, and then spend the month of August writing an official report on the affair that has dealt heavy political damage to Mr. Reagan's presidency.

Earlier, Mr. Regan vividly recalled the president responding "I'll be damned if I'm going to accuse them of a crime in advance," when the idea of a pardon for Rear Admiral Poindexter and Lieutenant-Colonel North was proposed. Mr. Regan said the subject "never came up again" in his presence, adding that Mr. Regan "put his foot down hard."

When his turn came to testify, Mr. Weinberger made no secret of his disgust at the proposal to sell arms to Iran. He said he wrote on one draft presidential directive, "this is too absurd to comment on," and said it would represent a "policy reversal" that other nations would see as "inexplicably inconsis-

tent." At the time, the United States was publicly seeking support for an arms embargo against Iran in the hope of forcing an end to its prolonged war with Iraq.

Mr. Weinberger said he and Secretary of State George P. Shultz were allies in opposing the arms sales. He said the two of them argued against the sales with vehemence at a meeting with the president on Dec. 7, 1985.

Mr. Weinberger recalled returning to the Pentagon after the session and telling a top aide he believed that Mr. Regan had accepted his advice and that "the baby had been strangled in its cradle."

But he found himself at another top-level meeting one month later, joining with Mr. Shultz in arguing against the sales. But this time, Mr. Weinberger said, he realised that the president seemed to favour going ahead. He said Mr. Regan was motivated by concern for American hostages being held in Lebanon.

Mr. Regan Friday said he had heard no evidence in the Iran-contra hearings that would indicate that any laws were broken. Mr. Regan was questioned about the congressional hearings at a photo session with Gabon President Omar Bongo. Adm. Poindexter resigned as Mr. Reagan's national security adviser, and Col. North was fired from the National Security Council (NSC), on Nov. 25 after revelations that profits from the 1985-86 arms sales, made in hopes of freeing American hostages to Lebanon, had been diverted to the contras at a time Congress had banned official U.S. aid.

Britain rejects U.S. request for help

LONDON (Agencies) — Britain said Friday it would not send minesweepers to the Gulf to help clear the vital waterway of mines that threatening oil tankers and the U.S. warships guarding them.

The United States has been seeking help from its allies since a supertanker under U.S. escort was hit by a mine last week. "We are keeping the situation under constant review, but have no plans to send mine sweepers to the Gulf in the present circumstances. We have explained our position to the Americans and will continue to remain in close touch with them," the Foreign Office said in a statement.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have refused to let the United States use their bases and The Netherlands said Friday it had refused a U.S. request for minesweepers (See page 2).

Britain has two warships in the Gulf and another nearby to assist British vessels in the Gulf, where Iran and Iraq have attacked 330 commercial vessels in their nearly seven-year-old war. The Foreign Office said the warships would remain in the Gulf.

U.S. Ambassador Charles Price on Thursday asked British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe for help in clearing Gulf sealanes of mines. The request was part of President Reagan's attempts to enlist greater Western assistance in defending shipping in the Iran-Iraq war zone.

Diplomatic sources said earlier that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government told the United States privately that Britain did not believe its minesweepers could substantially help the Americans in the Gulf.

The sources said Mr. Howe warned Mr. Price to avoid a public, formal request because the British answer would be an embarrassing "no."

West Germany has already side-stepped U.S. requests because its armed forces are restricted to NATO territory.

Britain's Royal Navy has 25 minehunters and 17 minesweepers stationed around the British Isles. Its larger warships also have minesweeping capability.

Its Armilla patrol, which consists of two warships in the Gulf at any one time and one stationed nearby, currently escorts British-registered tankers through the

Strait of Hormuz as far as Bahrain.

Failure to join the U.S. naval presence in the war zone was seen as a blatant snub to President Reagan from his most vocally pro-American foreign ally at time when he has been weakened by the Iran arms scandal.

In Washington earlier this month, Mrs. Thatcher described Mr. Reagan's move to provide U.S. flags and naval protection to Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Gulf as an example of clear, decisive leadership that should be supported by all.

But the opposition Labour Party said it would react strongly if British life were lost helping Mr. Reagan in the Gulf.

Shadow Foreign Secretary Gerald Kavanagh said in a television interview the Americans had made "great fools of themselves" in the Gulf. He cautioned against British involvement in what he said could turn into a "nautical Vietnam."

The Royal Navy has almost twice the U.S. minesweeping capacity. The U.S. navy office in London says the U.S. navy has 21 minesweepers in operation, while

the Royal Navy says it has 37 vessels in operation and five in refit or on standby. Neither navy has any of those vessels near the Gulf.

Foreign Office Minister David Mellor told reporters later Friday the decision not to comply with the U.S. request had been made "at the highest level" — meaning by Mrs. Thatcher.

"This should not be seen as a slap in the face," he said. "This should not be seen as a hostile act. It's far from that."

Mr. Mellor stressed that Britain supports the goal of freedom of navigation in the Gulf and was keeping three Royal Navy warships there, as well as cooperating diplomatically with the United States.

The British felt that "in the short term it was better not to contribute to more escalation" of Gulf tensions, he said.

He noted that it would take weeks for British mine sweepers to reach the Gulf and they would need other warships to protect them there.

Mr. Mellors said Britain thinks Iran is responsible for mining the Gulf.

Shamir: Peres wants total withdrawal

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has accused Shimon Peres, his foreign minister and political rival in the coalition government, of seeking Israel's full withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in the 1967 war.

"Whoever speaks of an international conference for peace wants an absolute concession on (the West Bank), the Gaza district and the Golan Heights," Mr. Shamir told the Maariv newspaper on Friday.

Mr. Peres supports an international conference leading to direct talks with the Arabs and is vague about the shape of future

"borders."

His Labour Party's platform calls for peace with the Arabs in exchange for Israel withdrawing from most of the West Bank and all the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Shamir and his right-wing Likud bloc fiercely oppose any withdrawal from the occupied territories.

"We are accused of saying no (to peace) but the alignment (Labour and its allies) has one big 'no' — 'no' to the land of Israel, 'no' to (the West Bank) and the Gaza district, 'no' to the Golan Heights... also concessions in Jerusalem," Mr. Shamir told Maariv.

"I'm not saying this on the basis of a feeling but on the basis of clear knowledge. It's based on facts," Mr. Shamir said.

Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir lead rival wings in the government. Both are equally represented, leading to a stalemate on the peace conference issue.

Mr. Shamir wants direct negotiations without a conference, saying a conference would push Israel into making "territorial concessions."

In another development, Mr. Shamir asked Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Thursday to

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Ceasefire takes hold in northern Sri Lanka after accord, but violence rages in south

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Guns fell silent in Sri Lanka's war-torn north and east on Friday as a ceasefire came into effect and authorities prepared to receive weapons surrendered by Tamil rebels, officials and diplomats said.

A government member of parliament was shot dead and his son seriously wounded when fresh violence erupted in the south in protest against a peace accord aimed at ending the island's Tamil rebellion.

The theory that Palestinians were employing a new tactic in their resistance war against Israel was lent credibility by a statement issued in Damascus earlier this week. The Syrian-backed Abu Musa group claimed responsibility for "a huge fire in the occupied territories."

lowing Thursday's assault on visiting Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi by a member of a naval guard of honour.

Officials said fighting between Tamil guerrillas and government troops in the north and east had ended following the peace accord signed between Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and Mr. Gandhi on Wednesday.

"Jaffna is peaceful and calm today. The rest of the province is also peaceful," Indian High Commissioner Jyotindra Nath Dixit told a news conference.

The northern Jaffna peninsula is the stronghold of Tamil guerrillas who fought a four-year war of independence for their minority community at the cost of more than 6,000 lives.

The rebels are expected to start

surrendering their weapons on Friday under the pact. Officials from Sri Lanka and India have moved to designated places in the two provinces to collect the weapons, official sources said.

In New Delhi, Mr. Gandhi said the agreement he signed with Sri Lanka was like a marriage without the consent of one party.

The most powerful Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, is still holding out against the agreement which on Thursday brought 3,000 Indian peacekeepers troops in Sri Lanka's northern province.

In reference to this, Mr. Gandhi told the Upper House of Parliament: "The marriage had

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Soviets table draft pact but insist on SDI limits

GENEVA (Agencies) — The Soviet Union on Friday presented a draft treaty calling for 50 per cent reductions in Soviet and U.S. strategic offensive arms.

"Agreement on space (weapons) is a necessary prerequisite for implementing 50 per cent reductions in strategic offensive arms of the (two) sides," he added.

It was the third major Soviet arms initiative in 10 days, and came six weeks before a scheduled meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington.

Mr. Obukhov called on U.S. negotiators to make concessions on space weapons, adding: "That is what we have been looking for a long time already. Unfortunately, the American position on space has not changed in a positive direction."

In another development, a senior Soviet official said Moscow could propose leaving missiles in Czechoslovakia and East Germany if the United States insisted on excluding West German Pershing warheads from a treaty.

Viktor Karpov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's arms

osed draft is based on the principle agreed by the sides of 50 per cent reductions in Soviet and U.S. strategic offensive arms."

These include a 50 per cent reduction in land and submarine-based intercontinental ballistic missiles and in long-range bombers to a level of 1,600 on each side, with nuclear warheads limited to 6,000.

Mr. Obukhov called the Soviet proposal another major step in the negotiations but said serious problems remain. The problems, he said, include a U.S. demand that both sides have "sublims" on the number of each type of weapon allowed. The Soviets, who have more land-based missiles, say this would force them to restructure their forces.

Mr. Obukhov presented the proposal at a joint plenary meeting of the two sides, comprising about two dozen negotiators and aides on each side. Mr. Obukhov told a news briefing later: "The Soviet-prop-

Furore in S. Africa over bomb blast blamed on ANC

CAPE TOWN (R) — Leading white liberal Frederik van Zyl Slabbert returned to South Africa on Friday from talks with the African National Congress (ANC) to face a furore over the latest bombing blamed on ANC activists.

He called a news conference to discuss his meeting with the ANC in Senegal and was bombarded with hostile questions from the pro-government media over Thursday's Johannesburg bomb blast that injured 68 people. The government blamed the black nationalist group for the attack.

Mr. Slabbert told the conference, also attended by U.S. and British diplomats: "If the ANC is responsible, and I want this established beyond all reasonable doubt — then I have to express my deep disappointment. It would indeed be a macabre homecoming."

The ANC has so far declined to claim or reject responsibility for the blast outside army headquarters that injured passers-by and workers in neighbouring offices in Johannesburg city centre.

The government has said Mr. Slabbert "owes South Africa an answer" over the bombing and has used the incident to attack the liberal Progressive Federal Party (PFP).

Mr. Slabbert resigned the leadership of the PFP last year in

disillusion at white-dominated parliamentary politics and some of the PFP's parliamentarians were among the more than 50 whites whom he led to Dakar for the talks with the ANC.

Current PFP leader Colin Eglin denounced the bombing and said that linking it with his party was gutter politics.

Frank Chikane, general-secretary of the anti-apartheid South African Council of Churches, called for negotiations between Pretoria and legitimate black leaders, saying it was the only way to end the war in South Africa.

Mr. Slabbert, normally urbane, showed irritation at constant questioning over ANC attacks and the merits of the talks.

He refused to dismiss the ANC as a "terrorist" organisation and suggested the bombing might have been the work of ANC members opposed to the talks,

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Dutch deny U.S. request for naval assistance in Gulf

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The Dutch government has refused an informal American request for naval assistance in the Gulf, saying it would send Dutch forces there only as part of a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

"We have had no official request but we have been sounded out about giving naval assistance to the United States in the Gulf area," said a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Friday.

The request was made during Thursday talks between U.S. Ambassador John Shad and Dutch Ambassador-at-large Henk Vijverberg, according to the spokeswoman, who spoke in exchange for anonymity in line with ministry practice.

Mr. Vijverberg was filling in for Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek, who is currently on vacation.

The disclosure came amid persistent rumours here that the U.S. government had asked The Netherlands to deploy several of its 13 ultra-modern mine hunters to protect Gulf shipping.

from Washington that U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger is planning to formally request The Netherlands to deploy some of its mine hunters in the "non-territorial waters in the Gulf."

The Dutch mine hunters are currently at the Dutch navy's base in Den Helder on the North Sea, and would require about two weeks to reach the Gulf, according to the Dutch Defence Ministry.

The newspaper report quoted an unidentified Pentagon source as saying that similar requests had been put before the governments of Britain, West Germany, France and Italy.

Britain said Thursday it was giving "most serious consideration" to a note from Washington that was believed to involve a request for mine-sweeping help. Britain has 37 mine sweepers, but none in the Gulf area.

Dutch government sources have repeatedly said in recent weeks that no official U.S. request for minesweeping assistance had ever been made, but conceded Thursday that such a request could have been made unofficially.

Meanwhile, American divers have been hunting for mines on the route that the oil tanker Bridgeton, the gas products carrier Gas Prince and their U.S. navy escorts are expected to take through the Gulf on their south-bound voyage planned for this weekend.

The Bridgeton hit a mine in the Gulf last week, only days after the Kuwaiti tanker was refueled to the United States, and the U.S. navy has only limited mine-sweeping capabilities.

Its three active-duty mine-sweepers are not in the Gulf area. Pentagon officials said Wednesday that eight U.S. mine-sweeping helicopters would be deployed to the Gulf.

Meanwhile in Rome, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday Italy has received no request from the United States for help in U.S. efforts to remove mines in the Gulf.

Israel to supply more tanks to SLA

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel is to boost the firepower of its South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia allies by equipping them with newly-refurbished Soviet-made T-55 tanks, Israeli defence sources said Friday.

The tanks, captured by Israel in wars with Arab states, will join several dozen World War II-vintage Sherman tanks with upgraded guns already in service with the SLA, the sources said.

The SLA is trained, paid and equipped by Israel and patrols a "security zone" — a narrow strip adjacent to Israel's northern border which acts as a buffer against Palestinian or Lebanese Shi'ite commandos.

The zone was established in mid-1985 when most Israeli troops were withdrawn from Lebanon, three years after they invaded with the declared aim of pushing the commandos out of artillery range of northern Israeli towns.

Israeli leaders say the zone has proved its value since no civilians have been killed by guerrilla attacks on northern Israel since it was established.

In its three years of existence, 18 Israeli soldiers have died in clashes within the zone, Israel says about 150 SLA men have also died along with a higher number of their adversaries.

During that time only one of several dozen attempts to infiltrate into Israel through the zone succeeded and the infiltrators were killed 200 metres inside the border, the leaders say.

Defence sources say SLA strength varies but rarely reaches more than 2,000 men, including an undetermined number of part-time soldiers.

The SLA's head, retired Lebanese army General Antoine Lahd, says about 60 per cent of his men are Christian and the remainder Shi'ite Muslim and Druze.

Several hundred Israeli troops back the SLA in the security zone and more can be rushed to the area.

Meanwhile the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) said it had rejected an Israeli offer to exchange Lebanese held in an SLA militia jail for three Israeli servicemen captured in South Lebanon.

It was reacting to a proposal made by Israeli General David Agmon, chief liaison officer in the buffer zone in South Lebanon, Hizbollah said in a statement Wednesday night.

Sources in the South said Gen. Agmon made the offer on Tuesday to village elders in Ainata, home village of Hizbollah's spiritual mentor, Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah.

They said Gen. Agmon wanted to exchange Lebanese held by the SLA for two Israelis seized by Hizbollah in February and an Israeli airman captured by the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia last October.

King Hussein congratulates Assad on a safe return of Syrian cosmonaut

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad congratulating him upon the safe return to earth by Syria's cosmonaut Mohammad Faris, Jordan News Agency, Petra reported.

In his cable, King paid tribute to the courageous trip taken by Lt.-Col. Faris which, he said, reflects the high level military standard achieved by the Syrian Armed Forces.

The space voyage by Lt.-Col. Faris, the King added, is a source of pride to all the Arab countries.

The Syrian cosmonaut will receive the Soviet Union's highest award, the Order of Lenin, the Soviet News Agency TASS said Thursday.

Lt.-Col. Faris will receive the award with Soviet cosmonauts Alexander Viktorenko and Alexander Laveikin, who landed with him in the descent module of their Soyuz TM-2 craft, it said.

Munir Habib, Col. Faris's reserve for the joint Soviet-Syrian flight to the orbiting station Mir, received the Order of People's Friendship, the fifth-highest Soviet award.

TASS said the Soyuz TM-2 landed at 0104 GMT Thursday, some 140 kilometres north east of the town of Arkalyk in the Soviet central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan.

Col. Faris, Viktorenko and Laveikin were feeling well after the landing, which followed

almost six days on the orbiting station Mir, it said.

But Moscow Radio said Laveikin, 35, who had been on board Mir since Feb. 8, had returned to earth with Col. Faris and Viktorenko for medical tests because of a heart problem.

"At the recommendation of doctors, Alexander Laveikin was returned to earth for a detailed examination of his cardiovascular system," Moscow Radio said.

Deputy Minister Director Viktor Blagov said last week there had been changes in Laveikin's cardiographic readings and although he was not ill, he was being replaced because the next manned flight to Mir was not due before early 1988.

Regan describes chaos in White House

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Former White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan described a White House plunged into chaos by the unravelling of the Iran-contra affair and so steeped in lies and deceit as to evoke images of a "palace coup."

Mr. Regan told the congressional investigating committees Thursday that former National Security Adviser John Poindexter misled President Ronald Reagan and other administration officials, not telling them he had taken it upon himself to divert Iran arms sale profits to aid Nicaragua's contra rebels.

He also said Adm. Poindexter withheld vital information when he was preparing Mr. Reagan on Nov. 18 to go before a televised news conference the next day, resulting in the president's botching answers to several questions.

"It was something like a palace coup," said Senator Sam Nunn, an opposition Democrat. "There were a few people in the NSC (National Security Council) who had taken over this aspect of foreign policy. We find out now that even the chief of staff had been frozen out of certain critical and crucial aspects."

Mr. Regan was to complete his testimony Friday. He was to be followed by the witness table by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who is expected to be the final public witness in the 11-week series of hearings.

Mr. Weinberger, according to a close associate familiar with the secretary's planned testimony, will offer no major revelations but will relate how he strongly and consistently objected to the Iran arms sales from the earliest stages in late 1985.

"He feels essentially that people in positions of responsibility let the president down," said the source, who spoke only on condition of anonymity. He will testify "that people did not tell the president what they were doing, did not get his guidance and did not present him all the facts."

In his testimony Thursday, Mr. Regan said it had become clear that the Iran arms deal the president hoped would free U.S. hostages in Lebanon had been largely a scheme by international arms dealers who used the hostages as "bait."

"They saw an opportunity here and tried to keep it alive," said Mr. Regan, who was forced out of the administration Feb. 27 after he was blamed by a presidential commission for the disarray at the White House.

Mr. Regan told of asking Adm. Poindexter for a copy of a chronology he had seen in the hands of NSC aide Lt. Col. Oliver North after the president's Nov. 10 news conference. Adm. Poindexter gave him a copy, then returned a few hours later to ask for it back, saying it contained errors.

Mr. Regan said he declined to return it, instead giving the document to White House counsel Peter Wallison to look into.

Committee investigators say it appears Col. North's initial chronology was fairly accurate, but versions developed over the next few days were "cooked" to minimise the party arms sales to Iran, which advisers feared might be illegal because they were done without proper prior written authorisation.

Under questioning by Terry Smiljanich, the associate Senate committee counsel, Mr. Regan testified that he and the president were aware of cover story for the November 1985 shipment by Israel of Hawk missiles to Iran. It was unclear from the testimony when the president became aware of the existence of the cover story.

"So in other words, you and the president understood that Hawks were involved in that November 1985 shipment?" Mr. Smiljanich asked as part of a series of questions about preparations for a November 1986 news conference.

"Certainly," Mr. Regan answered.

"But that oil drilling equipment was a cover story?"

"Sure."

Mr. Regan's testimony was unusually relaxed, prompting Democratic Congressman Dante Fascell to comment to the hard-nosed former official that "you certainly have mellowed."

Meanwhile a congressional panel reported Thursday that the U.S. army was not part of a scheme to overcharge Iran for Tow missiles and to use the pro-

fits for the Nicaraguan contra rebels, but it unwittingly aided such a goal.

The House of Representatives Armed Services Committee report said army officials charged too little when they, in effect, sold the weapons to the CIA.

The lower cost to the spy agency therefore increased the potential profits when the CIA supplied the Tows to Iran at prices that were inflated — according to testimony at the Iran-contra hearings — by up to 600 per cent.

Had the army followed proper procedures, it would have charged the CIA \$4.819 per missile instead of billing the agency \$3.469 each, the report said.

But it also said the army had no rational basis for pricing the weapons anyway. Efforts to reach army officials by telephone for reaction were not immediately successful.

The Iran-contra committees have heard testimony that significant portions of the eventual profits went to middlemen and the remainder to a business enterprise run by operatives of Col. North.

The enterprise, run by former Air Force Maj.-Gen. Richard Secord and his business partner, Albert Hakim, used only a fraction of the profits for the contra.

The Reagan administration wants some \$8 million in profits from Iran arms sales to remain frozen in Swiss accounts for possible future return to the U.S. Treasury, Attorney General Edwin Meese said Wednesday.

He made the disclosure at the congressional Iran-contra hearings when asked about so-called residuals from the 1985-86 sales.

A further three million dollars is believed to have been diverted to contra rebels.

The \$8 million is controlled by Gen. Secord and Mr. Hakim.

Mr. Meese, questioned on the second and final day of his testimony, said that before the appointment in December of an independent counsel to investigate the scandal: "The Justice Department did take steps to freeze whatever assets might be in Swiss bank accounts, and we are continuing to work with the cooperation of the independent counsel."

U.S. concerned over Swedish boats in Iran

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The United States has expressed concern to Sweden over the sale to Iran of speedboats used for hit-and-run terror attacks against shipping in the war-torn Gulf, say officials.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Ingrid Hjelt said Thursday that U.S. Charge d'Affaires Roland Kuchel had called the ministry to "call attention" to the matter, in the apparent belief that deliveries were still going on.

Ms. Hjelt did not say if the issue would be pursued further through diplomatic channels. A U.S. embassy spokesman did not return telephone calls.

The ships reportedly have been converted into attack boats mounted with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenade launchers and used to rake oil tankers with gunfire.

Sweden's War Materials Inspection Board has begun investigating the shipbuilders, Bøghammar Marin AB, to see whether the ships were designed to carry military weapons before they left Sweden.

Bøghammar Marin AB, a family-owned shipyard in Lidö near Stockholm, said the last of the 40 ships were delivered to Iran in early 1985, before they were put to use by Iranian attackers in the Gulf.

"There have been some rumours that the Americans think we are still delivering, but that is pulled out of thin air," said Anders Bøghammar, the shipyard's managing director.

Mr. Bøghammar said he had been approached by U.S. authorities, but he refused to say who they were or whether they were attached to the embassy in Stockholm. He said he had cooperated.

Mr. Bøghammar told the Associated Press the boats were ordered by the Iranian customs authorities in 1982 after Iran issued an international tender for fast patrol boats.

He said he had been told the ships were to be used to pursue smugglers at a time when the Iran-Iraq war had led to import restrictions, a price boom on lux-

ury goods and widespread smuggling.

Mr. Bøghammar said the boats were unsuitable for carrying guns when they left Sweden, and he denied that they had been reinforced for mounting assault weapons.

"If the Iranian army have the boats, they must have requisitioned some of them from the Iranian customs," he said.

The company builds boats for professional use, such as pilot and traffic craft, rather than pleasure boats. The ships exported to Iran, powered by twin diesel engines, have a top speed of 50 knots, and a boat of the same model with an identical hull has been raced in Europe.

Mr. Bøghammar said the delivery to Iran had been cleared with the Swedish War Material Inspection Board, which had raised no objections at the time.

He said he was taken aback that the deal had blown into an affair involving diplomatic moves. "I am very surprised. The debate has not kept to the facts."

Arrest warrant issued over Karami murder

BEIRUT (R) — Investigators issued an arrest warrant for a Lebanese army soldier on charges of killing Prime Minister Rashid Karami and trying to kill Interior Minister Abdallah Rassi, local radio stations said.

They said the soldier, identified as Elie Louis Salibi, was a technician at Adma Air Base in the Falangist enclave northeast of Beirut.

Mr. Karami, a Sunni Muslim, was killed on June 1 when a bomb exploded on an army helicopter based at Adma. Mr. Rassi, one of 13 other passengers, received slight injuries.

The warrant charged Salibi with the "deliberate killing of Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the attempted murder of Interior Minister Abdallah Rassi and the other occupants of the helicopter."

The radio said Salibi, a Maronite Christian from the town of Ghazir, left Lebanon secretly immediately after the murder and investigations were under way to determine his whereabouts.

They said Lebanon's judicial authorities had asked for Interpol's help in tracking down Salibi, who faces a possible death sentence.

On July 16, investigators arrested and charged Sergeant Ibrahim Dagher, a Christian army technician, with facilitating Karami's murder and violating state security.

Swiss advised to leave west Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Switzerland is quietly asking its nationals to leave Muslim west Beirut following threats unless it frees a Lebanese hijacker, Swiss sources said Friday.

They said the Swiss embassy had told some of the 200 Swiss passport holders in Lebanon that it would not be considered the embassy's responsibility if anything happened to them.

Anonymous telephone callers for a group calling itself the Green Cells have demanded the release of a Lebanese who hijacked an Air Afrique airliner to Geneva last week they threatened to hit Swiss interests if he was extradited to France.

The Lebanese, identified as Shi'ite Muslim Hussein Ali Mohammad Hattar, made demands which linked him to pro-Iranian Shi'ite militants. A Frenchman was killed during the hijack.

One caller exempted the all-Swiss International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) from the threat, but the ICRC said the Swiss ICRC workers in west Beirut, numbering about 14, were taking precautions.

The Swiss sources said most Swiss passport holders in west Beirut were women married to Lebanese and the embassy's advice to them was unofficial. Meanwhile Switzerland dis-

missed what it said was French media criticism that it failed to help France gain the extradition of a Lebanese suspect wanted in connection with a Paris bombing last fall.

French police in fact told Swiss authorities they could back the extradition request only with charges of alleged membership in a criminal group, a broad offence that does not exist in Switzerland.

Switzerland freed and expelled the suspect, Hassan Dib, last Tuesday. He was arrested five days earlier on suspicion of violating Swiss explosives laws, but questioning by French and Swiss authorities failed to produce evidence of wrongdoing.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme Review
15:55 Mobly Dick
16:15 Family News
17:00 Scientific programme
17:30 Chucky
17:45 Medicine Men
18:15 Local family programme
19:45 Programme Review
19:50 Iraq Newsletter
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 Varieties
21:55 Tomorrow's programme
22:00 Arabic play
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Play comic.

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Les sciences et la vie (documentary)
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 Science World
19:45 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Together We Stand
21:00 Wild Flower
21:10 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Claudia"

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 9600 KHz, SW
Tel: 73111-19

07:30 Morning Show
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 The Guitar Series
12:00 News Summary
12:30 38 years of American Top Ten Hits
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental/Local favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Music
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 Newsweek & Music
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Now Music
20:30 Discovering Music

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MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565,
11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00
News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News
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84% pass examination for secondary school stage

AMMAN (J.T.) — Results of a general examination taken by 60,000 students who will be admitted to the secondary school stage in Jordan will be distributed to all schools today by the Ministry of Education.

Minister of Education Thouran Hindawi said 84.4 per cent of those taking the examination upon completing the preparatory stage passed the test and will be admitted to various academic and vocational schools according to their grades.

Mr. Hindawi said 51,069 male and female students passed the examination which was offered last month. He said 81.2 per cent of the male students and 88 per cent of the female students passed the examination, set by the Ministry of Education.

According to Mr. Hindawi, the ministry will distribute students to academic and vocational school in the country at the end of Eid Al Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice) holiday which ends Friday Aug. 7.

The minister said those who have failed the examination are allowed to try again next year, provided they conform to ministry's age regulations.

Mr. Hindawi thanked the team of teachers and supervisors who took part in preparing the examinations and grading the students' papers.

The results of students who

took the secondary class admission examination in the West Bank will be declared after Eid Al Adha, he said.

Mr. Hindawi on Thursday met with committees involved in preparing for a national educational conference to be held in Amman at the end of August under royal patronage.

A total of 31 committees grouping 300 specialists are involved in the process of gathering data and preparing working papers that will be submitted to the conference, which will be held before the opening of the 1987-1988 scholastic year.

Mr. Hindawi told the committees, gathered at the Comprehensive School for Girls in Shmeisani, that the outcome of the conference will serve as a guideline for the Ministry's future policy on education in the Kingdom.

The information being gathered by the committees is contained in questionnaires distributed by the ministry to various provinces school teachers, educators, and departments of education which took part in providing the information.

The ministry earlier announced that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will take part in televised seminars to discuss reports that will be submitted by the committees to the conference.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Admission standard set for colleges

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Council of Education has declared that students with an average grade of no less than 60 per cent can apply for admission to the community colleges for the academic year 1987-1988.

PSD: No reservations needed for trips

AMMAN (Petra) — No prior reservation is needed for those wishing to travel to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Public Security Department sources said on Friday. The sources added that all reservation offices were closed on Friday and that people wishing to go to the West Bank and Gaza Strip can go directly to both the King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges.

Lioness Club holds party for charity

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lioness Philadelphia Club held a party Thursday which was attended by the club's members, Jordanian ladies and supportive members. Proceeds from the party will go to the club's charitable projects. The club is considering opening a clinic for children and ocular disease patients in one of the densely populated areas of Amman. The Lioness Club, which receives support from the Lions Philadelphia Club, was established in 1982.

April 7 designated as anti-smoking day

AMMAN (Petra) — April 7 has been declared an international day to combat smoking, according to Dr. Hani Oweis, director of international relations department at the Ministry of Health. Dr. Oweis said the World Health Assembly (WHA) has declared April 7, which marks the 40th anniversary of the organization, as an international day for combatting smoking. The assembly has called on all member states to ask tobacco companies to stop producing and marketing cigarettes on that day and to embark on a large-scale campaign designed to make people aware of the disadvantages of smoking and to declare public places and government departments as smoke-free areas, Mr. Oweis said. He added that the first response to the call came from the Iraqi government, which has decided to stop producing and marketing cigarettes on that particular day.

Debate continues on budget supplement law

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament on Thursday referred a controversial budget supplement law to the 1986 budget to its financial committee for discussion and approval. The decision followed a heated debate in which some senators raised questions over the constitutional legitimacy of the government's expenditure of JD 140 million beyond the 1986 budget without prior parliamentary approval.

The government's step has sparked a debate in both Houses of Parliament, but the Lower House approved the measure last week following a pledge by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai not to issue any budget supplements without a parliamentary consent.

The most ardent criticism was voiced by Senator Mudar Badran who suggested the issue be referred to the Supreme Council to decide the constitutional legitimacy of the government's step. According to Article 122 of the Jordanian Constitution, the Supreme Council is authorised to provide a final interpretation of the Constitution's articles if a disagreement arises and only if asked by either the government or the majority of one of the two Houses.

The nine-member Supreme Council, headed by the Senate Speaker, includes three senators, appointed by the House, and five judges from the Supreme Court.

Mr. Badran's suggestion, however, faced strong opposition by a number of senators who argued that the budget supplement should be referred to the

House's financial committee for discussion and approval.

But Mr. Badran persisted with his suggestion on the basis that the House should find out whether the government's step was constitutional before it proceeds with its discussion for approval.

"By referring it to the financial committee, we are actually accepting it as a constitutional step and that we still do not know," he said.

Senator Juma'a Hamad tried to offer a compromise by suggesting that the budget supplement be referred to both the Houses' legal and financial committees "which would require to decide on its constitutional legitimacy."

Mr. Badran again refused the compromise proposal, saying the House's committees were not empowered to provide interpretation for the Constitution's articles.

In general and unlike the debate of the Lower House last week, the senators did not directly criticise the government's "excessive spending" and instead focused their debate on the more general constitutional right of the government to issue and apply draft laws without a prior parliamentary consent.

During last week's session a number of deputies opened fire on what they referred to as "excessive government expenditure" which had compelled it to increase the country's dependence on foreign loans.

Karak Deputy Riyadh Al Nawayseh went as far as accusing the government of following an economic policy "which would

put the country under the heavy burden of foreign debt."

During the discussions of the fiscal budgets of 1986 and 1987, a number of deputies warned that Jordan's growing dependence on foreign debt would jeopardise the country's economic stability and political sovereignty.

Despite the deputies' strong opposition, the Lower House finally approved the budget supplement following Mr. Rifai's pledge to seek their prior approval in the future and his suggestion that a joint committee from both the legislative and executive branches be formed to study "supplementary budgets."

Mr. Rifai's proposal, which was welcomed by the deputies, followed his explanation that the supplement to the 1986 budget was issued "to rectify financial constraints which resulted from the losses incurred by a number of shareholding companies in the previous years."

Well-informed sources told the Jordan Times that around 40 projects, founded in the boom years of the seventies, had run into serious financial problems.

The government proposal was interpreted by observers as an attempt by the government to make the legislative branch share the burden of coping with the financial constraints which resulted from the setbacks suffered by the projects.

The observers noted that Mr. Rifai's step has succeeded in defusing the tension which had prevailed among the deputies and consequently secured the approval of the Lower House for the budget's supplements.

But as it appeared on Thurs-

day, the government's suggestion could not redress the basic constitutional questions involved, according to some senators.

"The suggested committee is not authorised to provide any constitutional interpretations and therefore the issue should be referred to the Supreme Council," insisted Mr. Badran.

Despite Mr. Badran's arguments, his suggestion, which secured only five votes, was defeated, and the draft budget supplement was referred to the House Financial Committee for discussion and approval.

Mr. Badran, however, was expected to pursue his suggestion when the committee submits its recommendations back to the House for discussion.

Ironically, some deputies noted, during last week's session that the government has repeatedly extended the budgets' expenditures without prior parliamentary consent. Mr. Badran, a former prime minister, conceded to this and argued that the constitutional legitimacy of such steps should be verified in order to put an end to the debate once and for all.

The government's pledge to seek parliamentary approval for future budget supplements was not enough, he said. "We need to lay a basis which could regulate government's authority to apply draft laws, and particularly those concerned with spending," he said. "This can be only done by the Supreme Council, which can provide the final constitutional interpretation on the issue," Mr. Badran told the Jordan Times following the session.

Queen leaves London for visit to United States

LONDON (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor has left London for the United States on a visit expected to last several days. During the visit, the Queen will patronise the opening ceremony of the International Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped due to open in Chicago on August 2.

Nearly 4,500 participants from 72 nations are taking part in the

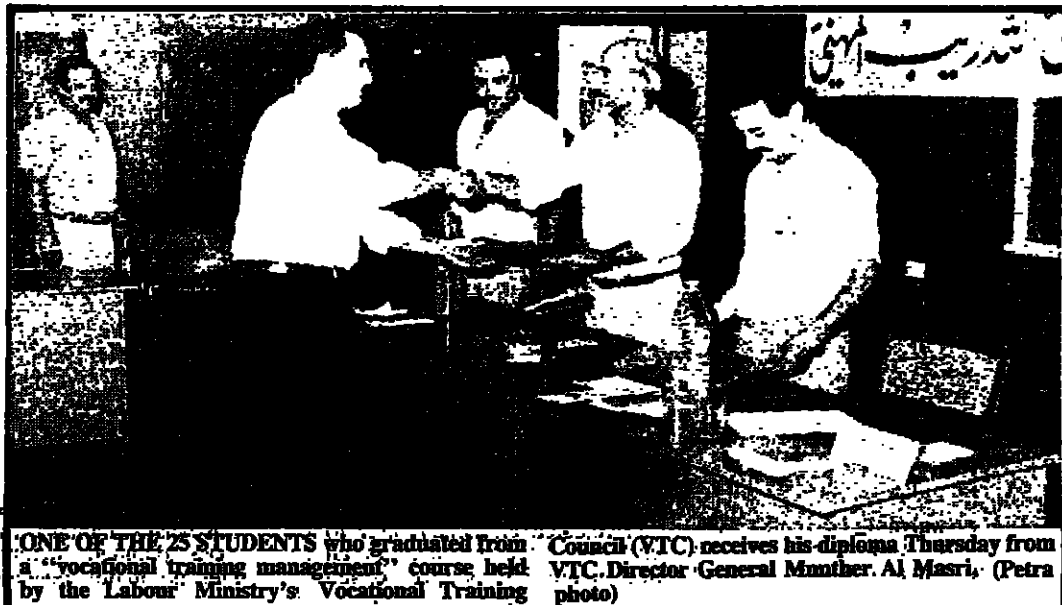
competitions; and the Queen is expected to distribute awards and trophies to the winners, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, who is also president of the Jordanian Sports Federation for the Handicapped is accompanying the Queen on the visit.

CORRECTION

The Jordan Times on Thursday erroneously published the name of Chilean Ambassador to Jordan as Alberto Yokam. The name of the ambassador should have read Carlos Derspech, who held a meeting with Secretary

General of the Foreign Ministry Nabih Al Nimir on Wednesday to discuss Jordanian-Chilean cooperation in economic and technical fields. The Jordan Times regrets the error.



ONE OF THE 25 STUDENTS who graduated from a "vocational training management" course held VTC Director General Muntaser Al Masri. (Petra by the Labour Ministry's Vocational Training photo)

Stamps to honour King's accession

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications will issue two denominations of stamps of the categories 80 and 160 fils on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne, which is celebrated August 11. One of the two denominations will carry the picture of Amman Industrial Estate while the other will carry the Kingdom's logo.

On the selection of these two

denominations, Minister of Communications, Muhieddine Hussein said Friday that the stamp, carrying the picture of Amman Industrial Estate was chosen to represent the industrial developments Jordan has witnessed since His Majesty became King. The stamp also embodies King Hussein's interest in developing the country.

Referring to the second denomination, which will carry Jordan's logo, Mr. Hussein said the stamp was selected in response to a request by the Cabinet to cope with the additions made to the logo of the Kingdom, which has undergone changes this year. The new stamp will also be kept with the national archive of commemorative stamps, Mr. Hussein added.

Pilgrims remain healthy, official reports

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, currently in Mecca for the pilgrimage, said today that pilgrims are in good health conditions and are not suffering from any severe illnesses or infections.

In an interview with Petra, Dr.

Khayyat said four pilgrims have died, three of whom as a result of old age while the fourth was killed in a car accident. He added that a small proportion of the Jordanian pilgrims have had a cold or reported feeling tired.

Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, also in Mecca to perform pilgrimage and to head the Jordanian task force, said Friday that the Jordanian pilgrimage teams have set up a camp in Mount Arafat to accommodate the 20,000 Jordanian pilgrims.

Bridgeton to sail without mine-sweeping helicopters

(Continued from page 1)
worshippers in Tehran that U.S. forces "had better leave the Persian Gulf region, otherwise we will strike them so hard they will regret what they have done."

"We are not bluffing and what we say is not meant just for Friday prayer services. These are the facts, and the world should know that we haven't yet brought most of our powers into play."

Mr. Khamenei, whose comments were broadcast by Tehran Radio and monitored in Cyprus, did not specify what powers he meant, but Iran says it has trained thousands of volunteers to attack U.S. warships.

The attackers could raid American warships from small speedboats equipped with rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

"If America enters this dangerous whirlpool, it will lose its reputation as a superpower... the unsafe whirlpool of the Persian Gulf is more dangerous for them than for us," Mr. Khamenei said.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards Minister Mohsen Rafiq-Dust told Japan's Kyodo News Service in Tehran on Wednesday that Iran would retaliate against any American attack by hitting U.S. facilities around the world.

Tehran has also announced what it calls a new policy of reprisal against Iraq's Gulf Arab supporters, saying it will hit economic targets in Gulf waters if Iraq attacks Tehran's shipping and oil installations.

Kuwait told the U.N. on Thursday it feared an attack by Iran and asked the world body to

take appropriate action.

In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah said Iran had escalated allegations and threats against Kuwait after the U.N. Security Council demanded on July 20 an immediate ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Sheikh Sabah said the escalation was extremely worrisome. He said it was imperative that the international community take the threats seriously.

To illustrate what he said was their grave nature, Sheikh Sabah cited a July 28 statement attributed by the Iranian official news media to President Khamenei that if "Kuwait's provocations continue, it will be a target for attack by Iranian missiles."

Sheikh Sabah also mentioned a Radio Tehran report on July 24 of a statement by Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani that "in response to American and Kuwaiti audacities" Iran had decided to attack oil installations of countries supporting Iraq if Iranian installations were attacked.

"We have devised the new policy on the basis that Kuwait has committed a repugnant recklessness when it drew the major powers into the region," Mr. Rafsanjani said, according to the radio.

Sheikh Sabah also referred to what he termed the likelihood of a direct attack on Kuwait that he said was mentioned by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati at a news conference in Geneva this week.

Shamir: Peres wants withdrawal

(Continued from page 1)
try to persuade Jordan to join face-to-face peace talks with Israel, political sources said.

In a message delivered by Israel's ambassador to Cairo, Moshe Sasson, Mr. Shamir proposed that Israeli officials meet a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in Cairo.

During a visit to Israel last week, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmad Essnat Abdul Meguid called Mr. Shamir's plan a non-starter and said the only viable solution was a United Nations-sponsored international conference.

On Wednesday, Mr. Shamir was urged by members of his Likud bloc to sack Mr. Peres for renewing his campaign to bring about early elections over the

proposed Middle East peace conference.

"If Shimon Peres continues to tempt Knesset (parliament) members to break the national unity government and its stability, Yitzhak Shamir is obligated... to sack Shimon Peres," Likud Chairman Haim Kaufmann told Israel Television.

Mr. Shamir was quoted by Israel Radio as telling a Likud caucus that Mr. Peres was "making a last-ditch effort to bring forward elections after his plan for a peace conference was undermined."

Mr. Kaufmann said that if Mr. Peres continued his campaign until the Knesset convened next Wednesday for the last time before its summer recess "there will be no choice but to fire him."

Truce takes hold in Sri Lanka

(Continued from page 1)
taken place without the consent of a particular party."

A Tigers' statement issued in Madras said its members would not surrender their arms as envisaged in the agreement that also provides for an autonomous council for Tamils linking the northern and eastern provinces.

Indian political and social leaders expressed relief that Mr. Gandhi emerged unscathed from the attack on Thursday in Colombo as he was preparing to return home after signing the pact on Wednesday.

A Sri Lankan sailor hit Mr. Gandhi on the shoulder and neck with his rifle butt.

"It was a total lapse in security and (National Security) Minister Lalith Athulathumudali should be responsible. He should resign," Sri Lankan Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel told Reuters.

The sailor is under arrest. High Commissioner Dixit told reporters that Mr. Gandhi's security staff had questioned the sailor on Thursday with the permission of the Sri Lankan authorities.

Security sources said Sri Lankan authorities are investigating whether the sailor has any connections with an outlawed leftist group.

Wijeyemunige Rohana de Silva, 22, was overpowered by two naval officers while Mr. Gandhi's security men swiftly moved the Indian prime minister to safety watched by a stunned audience

comprising President Jayewardene, ministers, diplomats and journalists.

The sources said investigators from the navy and the criminal investigation department were making inquiries at De Silva's home at Boosa.

They said his brother was a private in the army and his sister a recent recruit to the air force.

Boosa, a small town 110 kilometres south of Colombo, is a stronghold of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front) blamed by Mr. Jayewardene as being partly responsible for the revolt against the ethnic peace accord he and Mr. Gandhi signed on Wednesday.

The front has been banned since August 1983 for suspected involvement in anti-Tamil riots. It also mounted an insurrection in 1971 to topple the government of former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

State television showed a slow-motion recording of the assault and High Commissioner Dixit told reporters: "Had the rifle butt hit the prime minister squarely on the head, it could have been an assassination."

Mr. Jayewardene on Thursday made a televised public apology to Mr. Gandhi, his wife and children and to the people and government of India for the incident.

Mr. Dixit said Mr. Jayewardene had also telephoned Mr. Gandhi in New Delhi Thursday night to apologize.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1973

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Shamir insists on separate deals

IN his bid to foil attempts to convene an international Middle East peace conference, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has invited Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to take the initiative and hold what he calls a Jordanian-Egyptian-Israeli summit meeting. This he said could lead to direct negotiations between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian team and an Israeli team with the participation of Egypt and the United States. Shamir hopes that such a summit would serve as a substitute for an international conference which Israel adamantly rejects. Shamir has been claiming that the presence of the United States and Egypt in such a party would give it the character of an international gathering, for which Jordan has been striving. We have no doubt that Mr. Mubarak will turn down such an invitation because he fully realises Israel's evil objectives and its aim of undermining the idea of an international conference which both Jordan and Egypt advocate. Furthermore, Mubarak can never embark on a move that would ultimately harm Arab credibility. Jordan believes that an international conference is the only way for establishing a lasting peace, and that Israel's intransigence forms the only obstacle for the achievement of that peace. Both Jordan and Egypt are in agreement on this point, and Shamir's bids can never succeed in changing this situation.

Al Dustour: Hopes on China

IRAN has been counting on China to abort the recent United Nations Security Council resolution demanding an end to the Gulf conflict and to veto such a resolution which is aimed at ending the suffering of people in the Gulf region. But China's stand at the council meeting and the recent statement by the deputy Chinese foreign minister on this question have both revived hopes that an international action will finally be taken to end the conflict. Iran had been hoping that the abortion of the resolution would save its leaders an embarrassing situation and would make Iran escape from sanctions that could be imposed by the world organisation for refusing to end the war. We hope that China will stick to its position and help implement the council's resolution and also help in imposing sanctions on Iran for its adamant position and its disregard of the international community's will. Iran cannot go on fighting this year if it receives no more weapons, and we hope that the international community will refrain from providing Iran with arms and other assistance enabling it to maintain its intransigent stand. We hope that a constructive move on the part of the international community would help the council implement its resolution, concerning the Gulf war. We also hope that China, which supports Arab rights and opposes Israeli occupation of Arab land, will maintain its strong position in the face of Zionist policies and will help implement Security Council resolutions to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Sawt Al Shaab: The West intensifies Gulf tension

IT seems that the current international escalation of tension in the Gulf is being orchestrated by the United States, France and Britain. U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger has been meeting with his counterparts in the NATO alliance to urge them to join the American endeavour in the Gulf and to concert their policies with regard to steps being taken at that zone. As the escalation continues Iran tends to issue more and more threats against the Arab World and continues a drive to close shipping lanes in the Gulf. Both sides are therefore carrying out steps designed to fuel the conflict in the Gulf and involve other participants in the seven year old war. Iran realises that its continued threats will pave the way for foreign intervention, and despite that it maintains its policy, and also maintains its threats against Kuwait and other Arab states. In the face of all this, the Arab Nation has done nothing and is taking no serious steps to abort Iran's designs and curtail its aggressive moves. As the Arabs in the east confront Iran's threats, Israel in the West threatens to evict all Arab inhabitants from the West Bank. Israel is exploiting the weak Arab situation and paving the ground for implementing its long terms goals in the Arab region.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Hawks rising in Israel

THE Israeli deputy defence minister has called for evicting all Arabs from the Israeli-occupied territories to the East Bank of Jordan, thus echoing an earlier call by Ariel Sharon and Jewish extremist groups in Israel. Repetition of such a call does prove the racist and colonialist nature of the Israeli enemy and clearly manifests Zionism's far-reaching objectives in the Arab region. With such statements, Israel can not any more disguise its inhuman policies in the occupied Arab lands before the world public opinion. Statements of this nature are even more menacing, coming from people who are in high government positions in Israel and who are not to be questioned about their actions or statements. When the United Nations General Assembly likened Zionism to racism, Israel's friends and supporters launched a campaign against the world organisation accusing it of being biased against Israel. Now the world at large can hear Israel's threats to the Arabs and plans for evicting them from their homeland, without raising a finger in protest. The friends of Israel brag about their sincere efforts to help establish peace in our region, and call on the Arabs to have confidence in their policies. The Arab Nation should draw a good lesson from this situation and should prepare itself for confronting the new challenge, and the forced emigration of Arab inhabitants from the Palestinian homeland.

Al Dustour: Israel threatens to evict Arabs

A call by Israel's deputy defence minister for expelling all Arab inhabitants from their occupied territory into the East Bank of Jordan is to be considered as a new impetus for the Kahane movement which spearheaded a drive designed to serve Zionism's interests. The statement is an echo to many others coming from the mouths of Israel's leaders, army generals and heads of political parties. Those issuing such statements must be encouraged to do so by the Israeli government position and its continued intransigence with regard to a solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such statements are bound to fuel anti-Arab feelings within the Israeli society which is becoming more and more inclined towards violence and extremism. These statements are in line with the official government stand with regard to Arab lands which it continues to confiscate, and Arab inhabitants whom it continues to deport, detain or eliminate. Callers for evicting Arabs from their homeland must also be encouraged in their stand by the weak Arab Nation and the continued differences among its leaders.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Development criteria: The way out of the crisis

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

IN our discussion of contemporary Arab political life, the realisation that there is no easy way out, no panacea, must have set in. We have also emphasised that the upheaval we are living is a real one with dimensions covering every aspect of our life. Though we live in the midst of conflicting ideas, demands and ideologies, there is hope that out of this process of fermentation a way can be delineated. This hope rests on the belief that both the decision-maker and the intellectual of the Arab World have begun to realise the depth and the breadth of the crisis of theirs, and their society's life. This realisation is surely a positive step along the way, and the complete estrangement of two or three decades ago must, as seems now to be happening, take its first tentative steps. The dialogue, though hesitant and suspicious, has begun.

Somewhere in this discussion we have hinted that development, true development, is in the mind. While material progress is necessary and important it cannot be considered to constitute the only matrix along which a nation's development or underdevelopment can be measured. Street lights, paved streets, national radio and television stations, cars, ostentatious villas, conspicuous consumption among the privileged few... all these are manifestations of development, but not development itself. A nation can have all these, manifestations, as most Arab societies do, and still be considered underdeveloped.

The way out, the way to genuine development must be preceded by the following conditions. The availability, at least in the initial stages and until the system can begin to function properly, of leaders with vision in addition to sight. Leaders committed to their nations' needs; who have the imagination and the wisdom to open the ranks, to dialogue, and eventually to train their people in the art

of responsible discussion. In placing the leadership as the number one priority we are aware of the eternal philosophical dialogue vis-a-vis the questions of priority of leadership or society. In historical perspective one can, however, assert with some certainty that leaders created, or at least rallied together a nation and that nations declined, and some perished, in the absence of good leadership. This has been true until the rise of the rational democratic state in the West where the creation of leadership has not, and is not left to the accident of birth or circumstance. Two words need to be emphasised here: Wisdom and art are both qualities necessary for the leadership in the initial stages; wisdom because knowledge alone is not enough, and art because governance above all, is the art of dealing with people, tuning in to their needs, their moods and often anticipating what is to be done.

Previously we also emphasised the need for a period of respite: A period where our leaders and peoples alike can catch their breath, assess what exists and plan for the present and the future. Without this wise leadership, adept in the art of playing the game internally and externally, this necessary period of respite will not be forthcoming and we will continue doing what we are now doing: Running out of breath, with the internal pressures and external devils after us, and trying to plan our life and not doing a very good job of it.

With the above two preconditions three others must also be present: Rationality, democracy, and meritocracy. These three, along with those previously mentioned, are intertwined in such a fashion that all together form a whole. Wise means, by definition, rational leadership attuned not to self aggrandisement but to a national cause. Should this occur, the process of rationalisation of

life would commence, placing man and his needs at the centre of the universe, organising life in such a fashion that institutions replace individuals and planning, inspiration. Charisma however necessary in the initial stages must be routinised and people must be brought up in the process of taking responsibility for their lives and for the major decisions made. Currently, and sadly, no one bears the heavy burden except the man at the top and it is a heavy one both in contemporary and in historical terms. To advance, a nation must progress from the concept of the subject to that of the citizen who participates and shoulders responsibility.

Democratisation, rationalisation of life, proper and responsible participation are all gradual evolutionary processes that pave the way for the final precondition: Meritocracy. This means that above all else a nation must put the right man in the right place; that an institution whether it be a government department, an agency or a grade school be headed by a person who merits and deserves the job for inner talents, qualities or knowledge in him and not because of waste, nepotism, whatever its roots may be. Objective criteria should replace whim, for otherwise large or small organisations, would be demoralised to futility and despair. Properly led, institutions like societies, will eventually begin to produce instead of just import.

Of course, all that has been said needs time for the process of rational change to somehow be initiated. Witness that even Soviet Union and China and most other nations of the Eastern Bloc that have for some time now been engulfed in the shell of their own ideas and feeding upon them have come to realise they must rationalise and open up.

What the Barbie trial means to the Palestinians



By Edward W. Said

Edward W. Said was born in Jerusalem, Palestine, and attended lower and secondary schools there and in Egypt. He received his B.A. from Princeton, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard, where he won the Bowdoin Prize. In 1974 he was visiting professor of comparative literature at Harvard, and during 1975-76 was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in behavioural sciences at Stanford. In 1977 he delivered the Gauss Lectures in Criticism at Princeton, and in 1979 he was visiting professor of humanities at Johns Hopkins. Currently he is Parr Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. Mr. Said's work has been translated into eight languages and published throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. His book *Beginnings: Intention and Method* won the first annual Lionel Trilling Award, given at Columbia University. In 1978 his book *Orientalism* was a runner-up in the criticism category of the National Book Critics Circle Award. His most recent books are *Literature and Society*, which he edited, and *The Question of Palestine*. This article is reprinted from the *Jeddah-based Arab News*.

THERE has been a great deal of public attention paid in the West to the trial of Klaus Barbie in Lyons. His recent conviction by a French court confirmed a widespread opinion, expressed by journalists, intellectuals, and political figures, that a human monster who had been apprehended in Bolivia, forcibly transported to France, made to stand trial where his brutal crimes were fully exposed, was justifiably sentenced to life imprisonment. In all of this it was once again demonstrated that the principles enacted by the victorious Allies at the Nuremberg tribunals — the main one being the notion of crimes against humanity — were still valid, and could still mobilise the Western democracies. History would not be forgotten, or forgiven. The deaths of 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime constituted a horrible episode in human history. Therefore the Barbie trial affirmed not only the existence of a collective memory, but of a collective will to punish the criminals long after their crimes had been committed.

The Barbie trial, however, was not without its complexities and ambiguities, most of them expressed by his lawyers or by various commentators, who though they condemned his actions and those of the regime he served, felt that some issues were buried in the avalanche of approval for French justice. First, of course, was the fact that Barbie was initially protected and then employed by the American occupation forces in Germany after the war. He was considered to be an expert on anti-Communism, and was used by the CIA for its purposes, before he was helped to Bolivia, where until recently his identity and whereabouts were kept officially secret. Surely, it was asked, the connivance of the Americans was after all nothing less than complicity in Barbie's crimes, since it was cer-

tainly known in 1945 that he had been an active and apparently ruthless member of the Gestapo. Was it right to have let him off then, but to try him now forty years later? This is not a matter of his greater or lesser guilt, but a matter of the grossest cynicism, by which the powerful approve and employ a criminal, then decide four decades later, to force him to stand trial for inhuman crimes. How is it that his crimes now seem a lot worse than they did then to the very same people who first cooperated with the condemned Barbie?

Second, and more difficult, is the fact that Barbie was a killer of human beings in a world full of killers who, far from being apprehended and tried, are sometimes honoured, or at least left to run free. The Nuremberg principles were, in my opinion, universal: They were meant to be an impartial moral standard by which all human beings, at all times, in all places, were to be judged. I myself certainly agree with them, and I also agree that according to the evidence presented in Lyons, Barbie was a criminal who fully deserves his present punishment.

Moreover, it is supremely important that as Arabs we should understand, understand deeply and truly, the horrendous experience of World War II for the Jews. Sensitive to our own problems and difficulties, we must nevertheless realise that whether it is the Jews of Israel or those in the West, for both of them the Nazi policy of extermination is a historical reality that must not be denied, not even when we lament our own misfortunes at the hands of Israel. Indeed we should sympathise deeply with them as people who suffered a major human calamity.

But this is not to say that Barbie is an isolated case, the single instance of a criminal who happened to have done his evil in eastern France. He was part of a system and by that I do not mean he was just a part of the fascist system, but also a part of a system by which state power is employed for inhuman purposes. At the Lyons trial, two of Barbie's lawyers, an Algerian and a Senegalese, argued correctly that Nazi crimes should be seen together with the crimes of the Israeli government against the Palestinians, or the crimes of European colonial powers against the native peoples of Africa and Asia. To see things together in this way is by no means to exonerate Barbie: It is to ask the question why some criminals are prosecuted, whereas others are not.

For an Arab and more particularly a Palestinian resident in the West, the question of Jewish suffering and Nazi guilt is a profoundly complicated one. Most of us find it difficult not to connect media attention to the Barbie trial with the fact that Israel's treatment of Palestinians seems to be excused because Jews suffered so terribly. To the Palestinian whose family was driven out of Lydda or Jaffa, whose relatives were killed at Daywayna and Deir Yassin, whose sons and daughters suffer under over 20 years of occupation, whose loved ones were murdered in Lebanon, whose compatriots endure an endless existence in refugee camps, it is difficult not to equate Barbie with Begin, Sharon, Rabin and the rest. But why is it that Barbie is put on trial, as he should be, whereas Sharon, a man almost as murderous, is received as an important guest in France or the United States, and for his efforts Menachem Begin was given a Nobel Peace Prize? Why is it that the suffering of one group of people is assumed to be more worthy of memory and judgment than the suffering of other groups?

There is no doubt that late 20th century Zionism, especially in the West, has tried to reserve for the

Jewish people the rights of a unique history of suffering; this right has overruled the right of other peoples to say that what they endured was just as terrible. As I watched the Barbie trial I could not help connecting the man's terrible deeds with the deeds of Israelis against Palestinians, or with the French who caused 1 million deaths in Algeria. Then it became clear to me that the more the suffering of one people was portrayed, was examined, was detailed, the less the suffering of the new victims, the Palestinians, was recognised.

And the question proposed itself: Did what the Jews suffer at Barbie's hands excuse their state, Israel, for what it did to us later as Palestinians? Why are not the crimes against us as publicly examined and exposed as the crimes done against them?

Almost as great as the physical crimes against Palestinians — the dispossession, the occupation, the killing — have been the de-

liberate crimes of suppression and vilification. There is very little that is as morally cruel as denial: What we have endured as a people has been compounded by the fact that our enemies have denied everything they did and even denied our existence as a people.

What as a people we now require is an act of public atonement and acknowledgement. This is what the Barbie trial means to a Palestinian: That if one criminal was exposed and punished, the others must be too, with the same ceremony, the same confessions of the justice and injustice, the same acknowledgement of universal principles of humanity and inhumanity.

I am optimistic, however, that such lessons will be learned by Israeli Jews and by others. Let me conclude with an extraordinary instance in which an Israeli Jew has used his own personal history of suffering and genocide

to illuminate, rather than to obscure, the Palestinian experience. I speak of a remarkable memoir published on Jan. 29, 1987 in the *New York Review of Books* by Professor Israel Shahak of the Hebrew University. Shahak was a child in Poland during World War II. He witnessed the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto, the concentration camps of Belzen and Auschwitz (where most of his family was killed) and the wholesale extermination by the Nazis of European Jews. Then he came to Palestine as a refugee. Yet he concludes from these experiences that the treatment of the Jews by the Nazis was not unique, neither in what the Nazis did to other "undesirables," nor in what all peoples now and in the past have done to their so-called "inferior" or subject populations. Shahak's point is that what he calls "moral blindness" ought not to encourage the victims to think of their suffering

as unique, especially if they are later in a position to have victims of their own.

Shahak speaks of these matters not only as a Jew whose people were killed in World War II, but as an Israeli citizen. And it is as an Israeli citizen that Shahak today acts, not to attack Palestinians for their "terrorism," but, he says courageously, to take the more correct path of criticising his own people, the Jews of Israel, for their persecution of the Palestinians. For years Shahak has been the chairman of the Israeli League for Human Rights. He represents one supreme example of the intellectual vocation, uncorrupted by power, or by the various opportunities for narrow chauvinism and cheap patriotism. It is Shahak who supplies us with the proper method and the full perspective for understanding the horror of inhumanity and prejudice of which Barbie is but one instance.

Military, political stalemate marks Angola, Mozambique wars

By Pascal Fletcher
Reuters

LUSAKA — Fierce fighting between South African-led forces and Angolan troops and Namibian guerrillas last weekend has drawn attention to the wars which have ravaged the two former Portuguese colonies of southern Africa.

Guerrilla wars have battered economies of Angola and Mozambique since independence in 1975 and diplomats say efforts to end the internal conflicts appear deadlocked.

Southern African leaders lay the blame for the Angolan and Mozambican wars squarely on white-ruled South Africa, whom they accuse of supporting right-wing rebels fighting to topple the Marxist governments of both countries.

South Africa says its army units often cross into Angola. Government authorities in Namibia said 190 Angolan troops and black nationalist Namibian guerrillas were killed in two clashes in southern Angola last weekend.

The death toll was the highest since January when South Africa said it killed 72 Angolan soldiers and guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organisation

(SWAPO).

South Africa has admitted aiding UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rebels but denies supporting Mozambican National Resistance (MNR) rebels since it signed a 1984 non-aggression accord with Mozambique.

Neighbouring black states say UNITA and MNR activities, including the sabotage of key economic infrastructure and attacks on valuable mineral and agricultural sectors, are part of a strategy by Pretoria to keep the region weak, unstable and dependent on South Africa's economy.

Western diplomats in Angola and Mozambique say the decade-old wars in both countries appear stalemated.

In Angola, government forces backed by Cuban troops and counselled by Soviet advisers are reported to be gearing up for a dry-season offensive aimed at flushing UNITA rebels from their strongholds in south-east Cuango and Cuando provinces.

"It will probably be more of a containment exercise than an offensive," one diplomat said, adding that the main aim appeared to be to stop UNITA guerrillas infiltrating further north where they could strike at

strategic oil and diamond installations.

For its part, UNITA, which receives military aid from the United States believed to include sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles, says it is ready to withstand a government offensive.

Similar offensives in the last two years were halted. Luanda says this was due to South African intervention in support of UNITA.

In Mozambique, following a successful government offensive earlier this year against MNR in northern Zambezia province, MNR guerrillas were now beginning to move north into Niassa and Nampula provinces and were also reappearing in force in southern Gaza and Inhambane provinces, diplomats said.

Stark evidence of this emerged 11 days ago when MNR rebels massacred nearly 400 people in Inhambane province in an action which shocked southern African leaders meeting in Lusaka.

MNR has also begun raids into neighbouring Zimbabwe. Despite a reorganisation of government forces, which are backed by Zimbabwean and Tanzanian troops, and the appointment of a new military

commander, diplomats said the likelihood of an outright victory by any side in Mozambique seemed remote.

"The long-term outlook is still discouraging," one said. The Angolan and Mozambican governments have also ruled out negotiations with the rebels whom they dismiss as "bandits."

Mozambique's government, which now receives limited military assistance from Britain and has diplomatic support from the West including the United States, is adamant in its refusal to talk with the MNR, which it says takes its orders from Pretoria.

"You don't negotiate with the sergeant but with the general," a Mozambican official said.

However, there are currently no talks with South Africa on the question of security.

In Angola, the situation is complicated by the occupation of part of South Cuneo province by South African forces and the presence in the country of an estimated 35,000 Cuban troops.

The presence of these troops is a major obstacle to a United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia (South West Africa), the buffer between Angola and South Africa.

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Changing the Arab mind is foremost
to institutional, infrastructural development

A crisis of character

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Diverse socio-political programmes have been tested by Arab leaders in their quest to solve the many problems that their countries faced. In most cases those programmes failed to bring about "real" change, because according to the well known Palestinian writer, Sahar Khalifeh, the roots of the problems have not been sufficiently examined.

Sahar Khalifeh, a doctor in American Studies which include literature and woman studies, said that she believes "the problem lies with the human psychology of the Arab person which develops in an unconstructive environment."

A child's psychology develops during the first few years of his or her life, said Dr. Khalifeh, "these formative years determine how the child's personality, character, and mannerism will be, how sensitive a child will be, what his or her taste will be and the feelings he or she will have." She added that after these initial years, any changes that take place are only surface changes.

Dr. Khalifeh who has delved into the effects of the family structure on the political system said that the Arab family structure which serves as the environment for the child, is not conducive to healthy development.

"The patriarchy oppresses the children since the upbringing is not done through convincing. As the child grows his/her conscience is controlled by the outside i.e. father, teacher or leader, the child, now an adult, waits to hear from them to make a decision," she explained.

Images fill a child's mind and heart early in life, she continued. Images that a male is dominant and a woman is a weak subservient "saint" or prostitute, are images that recur throughout the child's life affecting the way the society develops.

"Our leaders are offsprings of the society in which they live. How can they be democratic processes. How can they create a society based on equality when all that occupies their minds are distorted images?" Dr. Khalifeh asked.

There is not one Arab country

free from major political and/or economic problems. "Military importance predominates the region as the slogans of liberation, which we had built hope on, have fallen. Frustration, defeat, and disappointment fill every Arab citizen's heart," she said, adding that the real question is: Are these problems only political problems, or are the political conflicts a result of social and psychological problems?

Dr. Khalifeh, personally, does not feel that political, social and psychological problems can be separated, because "unless the human psychology changes, our situation will remain as it is, and we will continue changing one hat for another, one dictator for another."

Dr. Khalifeh used the 1967 war as an example. She recalled Egypt which had one of the most powerful defence systems in the area at the time, lost Sinai because the majority of the people were uneducated and were not prepared psychologically for the war, "therefore when you give these people a weapon it won't be much good especially since they were facing a planned and studied war. How can they face the enemy without planning, tactics and manoeuvring, all which are tied to the type of mentality we develop in our childhood."

She does not call for those carrying the weapons to drop them, but rather to raise their consciousness. "In order to fight a fruitful battle we have to think first of the mentality of the person carrying a weapon. A weak body cannot fight the outside disease "which she considers to be world imperialism and colonialism which control Arab countries and rulers." And unless we mobilise all our energies and develop our potentials, including the mental and psychological, we cannot become an advanced people," she asserted.

Given the option of transforming the Arab mentality through the political system, education or the family, Dr. Khalifeh opts for the latter, since she believes the family structure is the basis for the child's development. As a writer and educationalist, Dr. Khalifeh feels her role should be to raise the awareness and consciousness of the family. The results of this role, even if taken by all writers, educationalists and intellectuals, would only show

after generations or decades, she said adding "we have to evaluate the educational and social systems and all other levels of practical life not only its political aspects."

Women should have a role in this process since they are the ones responsible for the upbringing of the children. Dr. Khalifeh believes that women should first crystallise an ideology, a feminist ideology which includes a struggle against racial, social and national oppression. "If women fail to do this then women issues will remain ambivalent. Only when women reach this stage can they become aware and organise themselves with other oppressed segments of the society to have an effective change on women issues and on the social structure."

Dr. Khalifeh identifies the feminist movement as an international movement which struggles for women's rights on a human basis. Speaking about the women movement in the Arab World she said, "we are in a transitional period, we are working towards change, but we need awareness stressing women issues." In fulfilling this goal Dr. Khalifeh has addressed such issues in her works. In her novel *Sunflower*, published in 1980, the main theme was the dialectic relationship between women and the nation. She takes three women characters, a worker who is a widow, a prostitute, and a journalist, to portray the realities of occupation and the oppression that women, especially Palestinian women, face nationally, sexually and in the class context.

In her most recent novel which will be available in 1988 *Women of No Man's Land*, Dr. Khalifeh takes another three female characters to describe the problems facing them. This time the three women are bi-cultural, Arab-American, African-American and Israeli-American, who meet in the U.S. during a women conference. Dr. Khalifeh debates whether these women who have gathered to discuss feminism and women problems can forget their national conflicts.

The majority of Dr. Khalifeh's books discuss women problems in light of the socio-political complexities of the region. They include *Memoirs of an Unrealistic Woman*, 1986, *Wild Thorns*, 1976, *We Are Not Your Slaves Any Longer*, 1972, and *After The*



Sahar Khalifeh: Our leaders are offsprings of the society in which they live. How can they be democratic when their life did not contain any democratic process?

Defeat 1970.

Most of her books have been translated into several languages, German, Dutch, Hebrew, French, English and Russian. *We Are Not Your Slaves* has been made into a television series in Egypt and Middle East Broadcasting also adapted the book into a play starring the Lebanese actress Sabah and Egyptian actor Ahmed Mazhar. Presently *Wild Thorns* is being made into a movie in Egypt.

Dr. Khalifeh born in Nabulus in 1941, has been able to portray the problems that women face with such accuracy as she herself passed through many of the problems she writes on.

"All the troubles of an oppressed wife and of a mother threatened to have her children taken from her passed me. It is different when you read about it, but when you experience it you will never forget it," said Dr. Khalifeh, who was forced into a traditional marriage at the age of 18.

After 13 years of marriage she finally got her divorce, but her

problems did not end as she was in a bad economic situation. "I had only my tawjihi (high school), two daughters to support, my studying and people's talk. However, being a divorced mother who is also a writer in a man's society opened my eyes to the many problems women, whether widowed, divorced, cultured or intellectual, faced."

Dr. Khalifeh found that even the progressive Arab man had the same mentality as his father when scratched hard enough. They still look at women as harem. "We must always prove that we are a full human being."

This is what encouraged Dr. Khalifeh to specialise in women studies at the University of Iowa after finishing her B.A. at Bir Zeit University in English-American literature and her M.A. in the same field from Chappin University, in North Carolina.

Dr. Khalifeh presently teaches Women in the Third World at the University of Iowa, but plans to return to Amman in December to teach at the University of Jordan and to continue writing.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Aug. 1, 1987

11:10 The Love Boat

8:30 Together We Stand

Tue. — Aug. 4, 1987

9:00 Variety Show

8:30 Double Trouble

10:20 Feature Film
Deborah Raffin in Claudia

Too Much Togetherness

Starring:
Nicholas Ball
John Moulder-Brown
and Barbara Jefford as Rosa with
Ed Deveraux Elizabeth Cossell
Belinda Mayne and
Mark Eden

When Kate is transferred into her sister Allison's school, she's instantly popular with everyone except her sister.

9:10 Ohara

"Toshi"... Ohara (Pat Morita), welcomes a Japanese police inspector from Tokyo, then teaches him the American way of capturing a killer and escorting him to a Tokyo trial.

10:20 The Unknown War

11:10 Open All Hours

Wed. — Aug. 5, 1987

Sun. — Aug. 2, 1987

8:30 Three's A Crowd
Jack Gets Trashed

8:30 Growing Pains

Intimate Contact

"Intimate Contact" Daniel Massey and Claire Bloom play Clive and Ruth Gregory, a well-off, happily married couple. He is a successful businessman, they have two intelligent children and the future looks rosy. But Clive has been feeling tired, and when he finally collapses the doctors discover he has AIDS.

10:20 Hunter

11:10 Are You Being Served

Mon. — Aug. 3, 1987

8:30 Throb

9:10 Mussolini

10:20 Goya

Goya's inner battle between his deep-rooted patriotism and his sympathy with the ideas of the French Revolution dominates this episode, set against a backdrop of a Spain devastated by the violent French military occupation, a bloody war, and hunger. Summoned by General Palafox to paint the glories of the heroic siege of Zaragoza by Napoleon's troops, Goya anguishes over the terrible war scenes he sees during the journey.

9:10 Doc. — The Silk Road
Across the Taklamakan Desert

The Great Taklamakan Desert is regarded as a most mysterious romantic region by people all over the world. It is famous for the richness of its history and its extremely severe environment. Milan, Ruogiang, Jeimo, Niya are all oasis cities along the ancient South Road that have disappeared under the quicksands. These oases have now moved to locations south of the ruins of the abovementioned cities which is evidence of the southward movement and drying of the deserts. The coverage team's travels down the ruined route of the South Road confirm the richness of the results of cultural exchanges between East and West that continue to flourish.

10:20 The Wheels



Deborah Raffin as Claudia — Saturday 10:20

Thur. — Aug. 6, 1987

8:30 My Husband and I

In the latest episode of "My Husband and I", the holiday brochures are out. But where is personnel boss Nora Powers (Mollie Sugden) planning to go? Husband George (William Moore) would also like to know who she's planning to take with her.

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film

The Evil That Men Do

"The Evil That Men Do" stars Charles Bronson as a professional killer who sets out to avenge the victims of political torture in a Central American country. Brought out of retirement to track down the man who killed his long-time friend, Bronson uses the friend's wife and young daughter to lead him to the fortress headquarters in Guatemala of a truly evil man.

Fri. — Aug. 7, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Anastasia

The story of Anna Anderson

Starring:

Amy Irving

Omar Sharif

Rex Harrison

In February 1920, a young woman is rescued from a Berlin canal after an unsuccessful suicide attempt. She is suffering from amnesia, malnutrition... and bears the scars of bullet and bayonet wounds. As she begins to recover, a regal posture and well-bred manner becomes evident. A routine police investigation triggers her memory — she declares she is the Grand Duchess Anastasia, youngest daughter of the murdered Tsar Nicholas Romanov.

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Biondi equals own freestyle world mark

CLOVIS, Calif. (R) — American Matt Biondi shrugged off the effects of a head cold to clock 22.33 seconds and equal his own 50 metres freestyle world record at the U.S. Long Course Swimming Championships Thursday night.

The 21-year-old Olympic gold medalist in the 400 metres freestyle relay at the 1984 Olympics, equalled the mark he set on June 26 last year at the U.S. World Championship trials in Orlando, Florida.

Biondi, who also broke the six-year-old championship record

of 22.54 seconds, was overjoyed afterwards "it was important for me to get off to a good start. I just wanted to go as fast as I could to the other end."

"There was really no pressure on me. I was smiling out there," he said.

Fifteen-year-old Californian Janet Evans beat Olympic champion Tiffany Cohen to win the women's 400 metres freestyle in four minutes 08.89 seconds and become the meeting's first triple winner. Cohen was second in 4:10.76.

Evans also won the 800 metres freestyle and the 400 metres individual medley.

Deaf swimmer Dave Wharton won his second event of the championships.

He took the men's 200 metres individual medley. Beating Olympic silver medalist Pablo Morales for the first time in four attempts.

Wharton's time of 2:02.76 broke in 1986 championship record of 2:02.96 and was just 0.02 seconds off Morales' American record.

There have been five American records broken since the five-day meet began on Monday in a pool swimmers say is built for speed.

The top two finishers in each event and top four in the 100 and 200 metres freestyle events qualify for the pan-Pacific championships in Brisbane from August 13-16.

The third and fourth-place finishers qualify for the U.S. team for the Pan-Am games in Indianapolis beginning next weekend.

Favoured Tyson in for a showdown against Tucker

LAS VEGAS (R) — The decision is unanimous — the odds which overwhelmingly favour Mike Tyson to beat Tony Tucker on Saturday and become the undisputed world heavyweight champion mean nothing.

The two American boxers and Tyson's co-manager, Jimmy Jacobs have all said that odds which make Tucker the longest heavyweight underdog in more than 50 years count for little and should be disregarded.

Tucker, the 28-year-old International Boxing Federation (IBF) champion, was once rated 14-1 against Tyson and is now considered a more respectable 9-1 for the bout.

"One of the first questions people ask me is, 'what do you think about the odds?'" The unbeaten Tucker said at a press conference signalling the end of an 18-month journey to unify the heavyweight division.

And he answered: "It motivates me. The reason is because

I'm a guy who's been in the professional game for seven years. 35 fights, and I don't know anything about losing."

Tucker's odds are the longest on a heavyweight boxer since 10-1 shot James Braddock beat fellow-American Max Baer to win the title in 1935.

Tyson, also undefeated and holder of the World Boxing Council (WBC) and World Boxing Association (WBA) versions of the crown, said nothing was further from his mind than what bookmakers think of his chances.

"I'm just a fighter he's a fighter. And despite the odds, despite the belts, I just think, 'can I beat this fighter?'" said Tyson, at 20 the youngest heavyweight champion ever and rated 12-1 on to unify the crown.

"That's all that counts. And I believe I can."

Jacobs took the middle ground, expressing no doubts about the outcome of the bout to crown the first undisputed heavyweight

champion in nearly a decade, but saying Tucker was no walkover.

"When Tony came up and expressed his surprise at the odds of the fight, I couldn't agree with him more," Jacobs said.

"I have watched Tony fight for a few years and everyone, including heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, has the utmost respect for not only his technical skills but for everything he brings to the ring."

"So I just want to say that the odds are made by the weight of money and not by the science of skills of various people in the ring," he said, looking towards Tucker.

Las Vegas bookmakers have set their odds largely on the public perception of the two undefeated boxers, and Tyson, with 39 wins including 27 inside the distance, is widely regarded as the best in the division.

Yet Tucker boasts the better record on paper. He has won 30 times inside the distance.

Hamburg goalkeeper considered persona non grata for 'misbehaviour'

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — West German cup winner Hamburg SV has put goalkeeper Uli Stein on indefinite leave and told him to find a new club.

The decision to part with Stein followed his sending-off in Tuesday's match against league champions Bayern Munich for punching Bayern's Jurgen Wegmann in the face.

The incident occurred just after new signing Wegmann had scored his second goal to give Bayern a 2-1 victory in the first "Supercup" match between the cup holders and last season's First Division champions.

Hamburg said in a statement it would help Stein find a new club and would be searching for a new goalkeeper.

Stein refused comment. "Leave me alone, I have nothing to say on the matter," he told reporters.

It was not the goalkeeper's first clash with officialdom.

Three years ago he was fined 2,000 marks (now about \$1,000) for damaging the club's reputation after leaning against his goalpost and making little effort to stop a disputed penalty.

Stein, reserve goalkeeper for the national team, was sent home from last year's World Cup finals in Mexico after criticising team boss Franz Beckenbauer.

Court reinstates Partizan Belgrade as Yugoslav champions

BELGRADE (R) — Partizan Belgrade have been declared Yugoslav soccer champions by a court which quashed sanctions imposed after last year's match-rigging scandal, the official Tanjug News Agency said.

Tanjug said the Serbian Labour Court on Wednesday over-ruled the six-point penalty imposed on Partizan and nine other First Division teams at the start of the 1986-87 season by the Yugoslav Soccer Association (YSA).

Partizan, penalised for allegedly fixing results during the 1985-86 First Division programme, finished second just one point behind "official" champions Vardar Skopje in the season just ended.

The YSA nominated Vardar, who were not among the 10 clubs penalised, as Yugoslavia's representatives in the European Champions' Cup in which they have been drawn to play holders Porto of Portugal.

Despite the court ruling, Partizan are unlikely to play in the forthcoming European Cup. YSA General Secretary Ante Pavlovi told Reuters: "We will not replace our teams in Europe this season."

In Bern, the European Football Union (UEFA) said they could not accept the court ruling.

Maradona to play in Wembley — league

LONDON (R) — Argentine captain Diego Maradona will play in the English League centenary match at Wembley on August 8 unless his Italian club Napoli objects.

League spokesman Andy Williamson said Thursday that he had received confirmation from Maradona's British agent that he wanted to play for a world XI against a league selection.

Said Williamson: "I am confident that clearance will be forthcoming when I contact Napoli. Only 40,000 tickets have been sold for the match, but the news of Maradona's participation will give sales a boost."

Williamson said that Maradona's fee for his Wembley appearance had been settled, but re-

fused to confirm that he would collect almost £100,000 (\$160,000).

Maradona seeks 4-year Napoli contract

In Rome, Maradona said Thursday night he would leave Italian champions Napoli in 1989 unless his contract was renewed for four years.

"Whoever is interested in me under these conditions can step forward," Maradona told reporters at Rome Airport as he returned from a visit to Cuba where he met President Fidel Castro.

Maradona, who led Napoli to their first Italian League title last season, boarded another plane for northern Italy to join the team

at their pre-season training retreat in the mountains.

The Argentine said he had already spoken about his plans with Napoli President Corrado Ferlaino. "I have much esteem for him but for now we are not in agreement," he said.

Maradona, who was accompanied by his wife and daughter, said he intended to return to Cuba to play a friendly match there next year.

He added that he was happy his younger brother Hugo, who has joined Italy's Ascoli, left exhausted from summer training. "The Italian championship is very tough and he will certainly be at an advantage after such rigorous training," Maradona said.

Speedie makes Coventry debut in Charity Shield

LONDON (R) — Coventry unveil their most costly signing, Scottish international David Speedie, when they meet injury-hit league champions Everton on Saturday in the Charity Shield, the traditional curtain-raiser to the English Soccer season.

Striker Speedie, who signed for a club record £750,000 (1.2 million) from Chelsea two weeks ago, replaces the injured England international Cyrillic Regis.

The switch is the only change from the side which beat Tottenham 3-2 to win the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup in May.

"This really is fairy-tale stuff," said Speedie after being named to the team. "I never expected to play but I feel terrible for Cyrillic Regis."

Everton, who earned a place in the shield match at Wembley as English champions, will field a

side depleted by injuries.

Midfielder Ian Snodin and defender Pat van Den Hauwe both have groin strains and goalkeeper Neville Southall, who has had a knee operation, will be replaced by Bobby Mimms.

Striker Adrian Heath, who scored Everton's goal in their 1-1 draw against City rivals Liverpool in last year's charity shield, is recovering from an ankle injury

and is among the substitutes.

But Everton's new manager Colin Harvey, who took over after Howard Kendall moved to Spain's athletic Bilbao last month, has included Kevin Sheedy and Paul Power, both back after cartilage operations.

Coventry's substitutes will include defender Brian Borrows, who missed the F.A. Cup final to have a knee operation.

Soviet Star wins Goodwood race

GOODWOOD, England (AP) — French-trained Soviet Star has overtaken the whole field to win the Sweetenham Stud Sussex Stakes, one of Europe's biggest one-mile flat races for thoroughbred horses aged three and over.


Trained by Andre Fabre and ridden by Greville Starkey, Soviet Star got off to a slow start and was the backmarker for the first part of the race, staged on

Wednesday.

But he gradually made up ground, passing the six other horses on the outside to win by half a length from Star Cutter, ridden by American jockey Steve Cauthen.

Soviet Star, winner of the French 2,000 Guineas, was priced at 3 to 1, with Star Cutter at 6 to 1.

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Telephone: 927198
Amman — Jordan
Telex : 22249 UDD JO

- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any prequalified interested eligible bidder on the submission of written application to the above and upon payment of non-refundable fee of (JD 200). Additional sets of documents may be purchased each at the same price.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security, in an acceptable form, of not less than (JD 40,000), and must be delivered to the Director General, UDD, P.O. Box No.927198, Amman - Jordan on or before 12:00 noon local time, on 5th October, 1987.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of those bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12:00 noon local time, on 5th October, 1987 at the offices of Urban Development Department, UDD Marka Housing Project — Telephone: 899361/62/63 P.O. Box 927198 Telex: 22249 UDD JO Amman — Jordan

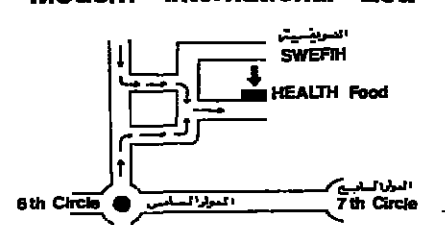
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41 killed in Mexico plane crash

MEXICO CITY (Agencies) — Steam shovels moved in Friday to clear charred debris from a highway where a plane crashed into rush-hour traffic, then slammed into a restaurant and exploded. Forty one people died.

The commercial cargo plane carrying 12 people and 18 horses was bound for Miami on Thursday evening.

Minutes after takeoff, witnesses said, the plane began swaying from side to side, shearing the tops off trees and knocking down power lines before crashing into bumper-to-bumper traffic on the eight-lane Mexico-Toluca Highway.

Mexico City Police Chief Jose Dominguez Ramirez Garrido Abreu said the search for bodies ended early Friday.

It wasn't immediately known how many died on the ground and on the plane.

A passenger who survived, horse trainer Guadalupe Pina, 42, said in a television news interview from his hospital bed that panic broke out as the plane began rocking.

Passengers screamed "God save us, save us" and cried as the cabin filled with smoke, Pina said.

Alejandro Perez Palma told television news he was in the kitchen of his home when the

plane flew past. The impact from the crash made his house shake so violently he thought a powerful earthquake had hit, Perez said.

Residents of the Lomas Santa Fe neighbourhood in the plane's flight path ran outside and watched as the plane buzzed low over their homes.

"It was obviously labouring. It looked like it wasn't going to make it, and it didn't," Elaine Carey said.

The Boeing 377 crashed at 5:03 p.m. (2303 GMT) Thursday, seven minutes after takeoff from Mexico City's International Airport, said airport General Manager Carlos Padilla.

Three of the four crewmen and four passengers were being treated at three hospitals, but officials at those hospitals refused to give their conditions.

Hospital officials identified some of the victims being treated as the pilot, the co-pilot, the cargo master and four passengers. They provided no other details.

The plane was transporting 18 horses of the Mexican Equestrian

Federation to the United States, officials said.

Airport officials said two of the horses survived but were badly burned. Police later shot one of the horses because its injuries were so severe.

Capt. Humberto Hernandez of the Civil Aeronautics Command said Thursday night that officials would not comment or speculate on the cause of the crash, which occurred during a light rain.

The Federal Attorney General's office said it had joined the agency in the investigation but gave no indication when anything might be announced.

A member of the Airline Pilots Association told the Notimex News Agency that the plane had no recorder in its cockpit and that this would hamper the investigation.

Notimex also reported that investigators were focusing on the possibility that there was a short circuit in the plane's central electrical system. It did not indicate the source of its information.

The agency also quoted witnesses as saying they saw a fire in the right wing shortly before the crash.

Officials said four houses caught fire but did not say whether they were destroyed.

The Red Cross said 12 people were evacuated by helicopter to

the Red Cross Hospital with third-degree burns, Notimex reported.

The highway on which the plane crashed is lined with businesses, restaurants and homes.

Police closed the highway, which connects the Capio Igithi city of Toluca, in both directions and said they hoped to reopen it sometimes Friday.

Toluca, the capital of Mexico state, is about 45 kilometres from Mexico City.

Airport officials said the plane was operated by Belize Air International, a charter cargo service.

The four-engine, propeller-driven 377 model dates back to the late 1940s.

Two of the crewmen later spoke to a Reuters reporter by phone from their hospital rooms.

The co-pilot, who sounded in good health, said: "Well, all I can say is the crew held out well."

He said the plane had been under charter but declined to give details. He did not say which part of the United States he was from.

Another crew member Brian Stuart, who said he was from Redwood City, California, said: "I'm alive, but I've got broken vertebrae and burns all over."

The pilot, apparently in worse condition, was not available to speak, doctors said.

Death toll rises to 75 in Bangladesh floods

DHAKA (R) — At least 25 people died Thursday in floods sweeping much of Bangladesh, raising the death toll this month to 75, officials said Friday.

They said 18 drowned in the worst-hit Gaibandha and Rangpur districts in northern Bangladesh and seven died in neighbouring Dinapur, three of them from snake bites.

Officials told reporters nearly 18,000 people had taken refuge in makeshift camps in Rangpur town, which was knee-deep in water. Ten thousand people were given shelter elsewhere.

Newspaper reports said villagers in the flooded areas had to throw bodies into the water because burial grounds were all submerged.

Relief officials said more than one million people were cut off after flood waters severed road and rail links and the army might be called in to help if the situation worsened.

The flooding, triggered by heavy monsoon rains, has destroyed more than 100,000 hectares of rice fields and this might force the government to make additional imports of foodgrains,

agricultural officials said. Lack of drinking water and contaminated food have caused epidemics of diarrhoea and dysentery.

Health Ministry officials said 20 medical teams were working to contain the outbreaks and the government had sent food, water and medicine to the flooded areas.

The Dhaka Weather Office said they recorded an average 600mm (24 inches) of rain across the country this week.

In Burma, floods triggered by four days of heavy rains washed away railway tracks, inundated farm and machinery warehouses and damaged bridges in the north western Sagaing region, the state-owned Working People's Daily said.

It said many villages in Wundwin and Kailin towns in upper Sagaing were flooded from last Monday as streams and ditches in low lying areas overflowed.

The paper said the road linking the Myitkyna-Mandalay and Naba-Mandalay rail services were disrupted on Sunday and Monday.

Brazilian prisoners claim police killed 100 inmates

SAO PAULO (R) — Prisoners at the Sao Paulo State Penitentiary have said nearly 100 inmates were killed by police who stormed the jail after negotiations for the release of 30 hostages failed.

Police put the official death toll at 27 prisoners and two police officers. The press was not allowed in the prison.

Sao Paulo State Justice Secretary Mario Sergio Duarte Garcia appeared on television to discount as "pure fantasy" inmates' allegations that dozens of uncounted bodies remained inside the jail.

A riot began Wednesday afternoon when some 250 convicts in the 1,100-man prison set fire to a section of the jail and seized the hostages, authorities said.

After hours of negotiation, the authorities decided to storm the prison with a 500-strong force of police.

Col. Wilson Correa Leite, commander of the Sao Paulo Military Police, said Thursday that the hostages were safely released but that 27 inmates had died he said many of the dead were killed by other convicts in personal vendettas.

But later Thursday prisoners tossed written messages from within the prison claiming many more had been killed.

"What happened last night was a massacre. It's possible that nearly 100 of us were shot dead by police, even though some were not even armed," one message said.

Haiti streets deserted as non-stop strike continues

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Soldiers patrolled deserted downtown streets of the capital Friday, the third day of a non-stop general strike demanding that the ruling junta resign.

There were no burning barricades or demonstrations that characterised earlier strikes in the past two months. Dessalines Boulevard, the capital's main street, was empty. Not even youths took advantage of the lull in activity to play soccer on it.

The only recent sign of unrest came just before dawn Thursday, when gunmen shot at the offices of seven radio stations, the main source of news for Haiti's 6 million people.

Since June 29, there have been 11 strike days, called by a coalition of 57 peasant, student, political and labour groups. Twenty-one people have died. The coalition wants the three-man National Governing Council, headed by Lt-Gen. Henri Namphy, to step down.

Strike organisers said the decision to make the latest strike non-stop came after soldiers opened fire Wednesday on 2,500 people marching peacefully.

Policeman, guerrilla killed in Peru clash

LIMA, Peru (AP) — A gun battle between police and rebels killed a policeman and a Shining Path guerrilla and left two rebels wounded, the Interior Ministry said Thursday night.

The fighting between police and rebels occurred Wednesday after a column of 20 Shining Path rebels captured and shot to death the manager of a cooperative farm in Cajamarca state, located about 650 kilometres north of Lima, officials said.

An Interior Ministry communiqué said a patrol of 12 policemen caught up with the rebels shortly after the shooting and a gun battle broke out that lasted several minutes.

In another incident, a band of leftist guerrillas kidnapped a mountain village's deputy mayor, held a mock trial on the village plaza and executed him, police said Thursday.

Fifteen armed members of the Shining Path, a Maoist-influenced guerrilla group, broke into the home of Honorio Poma-Chagua late Tuesday, according to the police account. Poma-Chagua was deputy mayor of Ondores, about 140 kilometres north east of Lima in the Andes.

Police said the rebels led the official to the village square and declared him guilty of being a member of President Alan Garcia's Aprista Party of "not resigning the village post and (of) being an informer."

Aprista Party members, especially those with official posts in isolated highland towns, have been the targets of numerous assassinations by the guerrillas.

More than 10,000 people have been killed during the rebels' 7-year-old war to topple Peru's elected government. Mr. Garcia announced Tuesday that he was easing anti-guerrilla emergency measures in Lima and the highland state of Ayacucho, where the guerrilla insurgency began.

Associated Press to reach Mrs. Diaz Herrera or members of her family in Venezuela failed Thursday.

In London, the director of the International Press Institute sent a message to president Eric Arturo Delvalle of Panama expressing concern over censorship imposed there on radio, newspapers and other publications.

"We understand that La Prensa, Extra and El Siglo have again been closed down and that Exitosa Radio's broadcasts have been suspended," Mr. Galliner said Thursday.

"These actions violate internationally recognised standards of press freedom and we strongly urge you... not to impose these repressive measures which cannot be a realistic solution to the current situation in your country."

On June 11, Panama declared a state of emergency, sending hundreds of troops into the streets of the capital, Panama City, after two days of battles between police and demonstrators protesting the military leadership.

The emergency declaration suspended eight articles of the constitution, among them those guaranteeing freedom of expression.

After Col. Diaz Herrera's accusations, a coalition of 107 political, business, student and union groups began staging a series of protests, including a two-day strike earlier in the week that virtually shut down business in this nation of 2 million people.

"All I ask is that (the Panamanian authorities) release my husband Roberto and prepare the way to peace in Panama," Mrs. Diaz Herrera said after her arrival in Maiquetia International Airport, El Mundo said.

Repeated attempts by the

Mrs. Diaz Herrera is a Venezuelan by birth and holds a Venezuelan passport, as do her three children.

Col. Diaz Herrera and 45

others were taken into custody early Monday after soldiers stormed his walled mansion and helicopters dropped tear gas into the compound.

Panama has been wracked since last month by sometimes violent demonstrations against the rule of Gen. Noriega.

The disturbances began when Col. Diaz Herrera publicly accused Gen. Noriega of corruption, vote fraud and conspiracy to murder political opponents, including his predecessor, Gen. Omar Torrijos, in 1981, and opposition leader Hugo Spadafora in 1985.

Gen. Noriega has denied the charges.

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Repeated attempts by the

COLUMNS 768

'Sex-discrimination growing in China'

PEKING (R) — China's official women's rights group said Friday that discrimination against female college graduates was growing and complained that Chinese women were expected to be "more perfect" than men. "More and more work units have closed their doors to female graduates," the New China News Agency (NCNA) quoted Zhang Guoying, vice-president of the All-China Women's Federation, as saying. Zhang said 80 per cent of female journalism graduates from one university had failed to find jobs and that employers often employed poorly qualified men instead of able women. Chinese women were expected to be good wives and mothers and even better than men at work, the agency quoted Zhang as saying. Employers say women's work is inferior to men's even when they have better qualifications, that women cannot make business trips easily and that their work will be affected by having children, the agency said. Earlier reports explained the growing discrimination by saying that in the past, when graduates were scarce, Chinese organisations were grateful to employ any college-leaver, male or female, but had now become choosy.

Shanghai enrolls 770 self-financed students

PEKING (AP) — Twenty-one Shanghai colleges and universities this fall will become China's first to enroll students who pay for their own education, an official newspaper said. In the past, the government financed the education of all students in its colleges and universities. Self-paying students are still required to take the nationwide college entrance exams, but the cutoff scores for them had been 10 points lower for undergraduates and 30 points lower for professional school students, Shanghai's Wenhui Daily said. They are not guaranteed jobs after graduation and will have to find their own, the paper said. In the past, all students in state-run colleges were guaranteed job assignments upon graduation. Of the 770 students, 184 will enroll in four-year undergraduate programmes and 586 in two- and three-year professional training programmes, the paper said.

Shanghai cracks down on pornography

PEKING (AP) — Shanghai's municipal government says thousands of police will crack down on pornographic activity after Aug. 20, an official newspaper reported Friday. Anyone involved in smuggling, manufacturing, selling or renting pornographic videotapes, books or photos or showing videotapes must turn their pornographic goods to police by the deadline, the overseas edition of the People's Daily said. The government promised harsh penalties to those who ignore the deadline, but did not say what the punishments would be. Some of Shanghai's pornography comes directly from foreign countries or Hong Kong and Macao, but most comes from southern Fujian and Guangdong provinces, the paper said. It said most people who buy pornography are private entrepreneurs, but some cadres from state organisations also make purchases while on official business.

Pensioner hangs from Colosseum

ROME (R) — A 70-year-old Italian dressed up as a Roman centurion and dangled by a rope from the side of the Colosseum in front of hundreds of tourists, police said Friday. Arrigo Ambrosi, who was put in psychiatric care after firemen rescued him Thursday, wanted to draw attention to problems with his family, they said. He planned to slide down into the arena from halfway up the 57-metre-high monument, but his arms became tangled in the rope and he hung in mid-air for 20 minutes. The Colosseum, one of Rome's most famous attractions, was built in the first century and used for 400 years for gladiator fights.

Sorcerer's potion kills 4

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Four men died after drinking a potion that a sorcerer said could only kill those who were guilty of witchcraft, newspapers reported Friday. Police refused to identify the sorcerer, who was arrested after Wednesday's fatal ritual at Kanyama Kologi village in western Kenya. The daily Nation and the Standard newspapers reported that villager Johannes Ogola Openda hired the sorcerer to find the people he believed had bewitched 10 of his children who died this year. Such rituals are common in Africa. Openda got a permit from the local administration official allowing the ceremony. The medicine man produced a herbal potion called Manyasi and warned villagers: "If anybody knows that he or she caused the deaths of Openda's children, the person should come out in the open and confess. If he takes this drink, nothing but death will result." Nobody confessed and the sorcerer drank the concoction himself before serving it, the newspapers said. Reuben Owino, 50, Wilson Omolo Openda, 60, and Alois Ochola Oleno, also 60, died within an hour of drinking the potion. A fourth victim, Cosmas Dibogo Ngani, died in hospital where a fifth patient of the ritual is reported to be recovering. An officer at Homa Bay Police Station, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the sorcerer would appear in court but he did not know what charges would be brought. The policeman said the medicine man had pleaded his innocence, arguing others had survived his potion and that it only killed guilty people.

India reports six new AIDS cases

NEW DELHI (R) — India has detected six new cases of AIDS among foreigners, but the deadly disease is not spreading on a major scale in the country, a government minister has said. The six were detected in the last four months, but Minister of State for Health Saroj Kharpade gave no further details in a written reply to parliament. Mr. Kharpade said all foreigners likely to stay in India for more than a year, except diplomats, would be tested on arrival. All new foreign students would also be subjected to the tests and admission would hinge on the results, but students already in India when admission is sought would be exempted. About 90 people in India have contracted acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), which destroys the body's ability to fight diseases, and five have died so far, according to health officials.

L.A. Law heads Emmy nominees

LOS ANGELES (R) — A television series on the loves and backroom battles of lawyers, L.A. Law, led the field with 20 Emmy Award nominations. A comedy about four women in Miami retirement community, the Golden Girls, and Moonlighting, a wry, romantic detective series starring Cybill Shepherd and Bruce Willis, followed with 14 nominations each. The hospital series St. Elsewhere received 11 nominations and an old favourite, Cheers, about life in a Boston bar, had 10. The NBC television network received 140 nominations for television's most prized awards, a long way ahead of the runners-up, ABC with 76 and CBS with 74. British actor Edward Woodward, 57, who suffered a heart attack in Warwick, central England, on Tuesday, was among those nominated for best actor in a drama series for his role of tough guy Robert McCall in the Equalizer. Among last year's winners who were nominated again for the same roles were Betty White, as best comedy actress in the Golden Girls Sharon Williams, as best dramatic series actress in Cagney and Lacey William Daniels, who has won best dramatic actor two years in a row for St. Elsewhere, and Michael J. Fox, as best comedy actor for Family Ties. The nominations for L.A. Law included two for best actresses in a drama series — Susan Dey, who plays Grace Van Owen, and Jill Eikenberry, who portrays Anne Kelsey — and one for best actor, Corbin Benness, who plays Arnie Becker. The awards, given annually by members of the television industry who make up the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, will be announced in a televised ceremony on Sept. 20.

Managua looks for jets

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Nicaragua is looking for warplanes to intercept alleged CIA flights parachuting supplies to the Nicaraguan rebels, the Sandinista army's intelligence chief says.

"We do not have planes to intercept the supply flights, and while we do not, we cannot stop them," Maj. Ricardo Wheelock said at a news conference.

He said the anti-government rebels in Nicaragua depend heavily on the airdropped supplies from what he said were flights manned and organised by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Other military officials of the Sandinista government have said the CIA is parachuting supplies to rebels inside Nicaragua once a week.

Congress last year authorised a \$100-million military assistance programme to the rebels, known as contras.

The administration of U.S.

President Ronald Reagan, which plans to upgrade the air force of neighbouring Honduras with American-made jet fighters, has said the United States would retaliate if the Sandinistas acquire such aircraft.

Asked if Nicaragua has refrained from acquiring warplanes because of the threats, Maj. Wheelock said, "We have always said that we have the right to acquire that type of plane, and we will keep looking for them."

U.S. embassy Press Attache Alberto Fernandez said in a telephone interview that Maj. Wheelock's comments apparently mark the first time the Sandinistas have acknowledged they are actively looking for warplanes.

Obviously, the acquisition of warplanes by the Sandinistas, who have by far the largest army in Central America, would seriously upset the balance of power with its neighbours," Mr. Fernandez said.

Judgment reserved on U.K. spy book appeal

SYDNEY (R) — An Australian court reserved judgment Friday on Britain's appeal to maintain a ban on the memoirs of retired counter-intelligence agent Peter Wright.

The New South Wales court of appeal, after a five-day hearing, said Wright and his publisher, Heinemann Australia, should not publish the memoir Spycatcher in Australia until it gave a verdict.

No date was fixed for the judgment, but court officials said the three-judge panel, headed by Chief Justice Laurence Street, was expected to give its decision within three weeks.

Street gave an assurance that he and his fellow judges would assess the case on the evidence before them, disregarding a ruling from Britain's highest legal tribunal banning British newspapers from publishing any part of the book.

The law lords in London also extended the reach of the original injunction and banned any reports appearing in Britain of the Sydney appeal court proceedings, except the final judgment.

Street described the British ruling as a "two-edged sword" and said it did not disadvantage either of the parties before him.

Theo Simos, representing the British government, said Wright must be made to understand that the publication of Spycatcher in the United States did not release him from his "duty of confidentiality."

Wright, 71, retired to Tasmania in 1976 after 38 years of service in Britain's MI5 counter-intelligence agency. He alleged in his book that the British secret service was riddled with Soviet agents.

Spycatcher was published in the United States earlier this month.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q882 ♥AK63 ♦AQ82
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♣ Pass 1♥ ?
What action do you take?
- Q2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠854 ♥K3 ♦QK6 ♣J9652
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1♣ Pass
? What do you bid now?
- Q3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ7 ♦AKQJ42 ♣AK103
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass
? What do you bid now?
- Q4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K109853 ♥8 ♦KQ10942
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?
- Q5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K7852 ♥6 ♦QJ10 ♣AQ93
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1♣ Pass 1♥ 2NT
? What action do you take?
- Q6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK63 ♥7 ♦AK6542 ♣K10
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass
? What do you bid now?